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NO. 7886 SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 1990/ZULQAD 10, 1410 AH 22 PAGES 150 FILLS

PLO rebuffs US request

Direct talks may be frozen

TUNIS, June 2. (Agencies): The PLO, rebuffing a formal US request, is disinclined to condemn Wednesday's Palestinian raid on Israel's shores and unwilling to expel hardline Palestinian leader Mohammed Abu Abbas, PLO leader Yasser Arafat's deputy Abu Iyad said today.

"We are not going to change our attitude to the peace initiative taken in Algiers in 1988. But we are not going to renounce our principles to beg for the pursuit of dialogue with Washington at any price," Iyad said in an interview with United Press International.

US diplomats in the region have indicated that direct talks between the US and the PLO in Tunis may be frozen unless Arafat distances himself from the assault, which is widely believed to have been launched by commandos operating from Libya.



Rex Harrison dies

Irish actor Rex Harrison, whose stage and screen career spanned more than six decades, died in New York at the age of 82, his agent Lawrence Evans said today.

Harrison, who was appearing in a Broadway production, died three weeks ago, of cancer of the pancreas. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWSWATCH

Amir awarded: Kuwaiti Ambassador to Egypt Abdul Razak Al Kandari on Saturday received the Arab public opinion's medal of the first order on behalf of HH the Amir, Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah.

Kandari said that choice of the Amir out of ten international figures was a natural result for his tireless efforts to realize rapprochement and solidarity in the Arab and Islamic worlds. (Kuna)

Minister reiterates: Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber M. Al-Hamad in Cairo reiterated that the National Council was "a continuation for the dialogue between the leadership (of Kuwait) and the (Kuwaiti) people," dismissing allegations that it was an attempt to restrict democracy in Kuwait.

In an interview with "Al-Akhar Al-Yawm" newspaper, Sheikh Jaber also reaffirmed that the council was "an interim body set up for clear tasks and specific works."

1 more withdraw: Eleven candidates for the National Council withdrew their candidacy on Saturday reducing the number of nominees to 395 persons. The elections for the interim council are scheduled for June 10. (Kuna)

Welcome for Iranian pilgrims: For the second day running, the Saudi Arabian authorities stressed their "welcome" for Iranian pilgrims for the annual hajj to Mecca which climaxes in month, rejecting Tehran's claims that they were arriving from performing the holy rites.

Informed sources meanwhile disclosed that the kingdom had even been ready to raise the quota for Iranian pilgrims to this year's hajj from 45,000 to 60,000.

Five convicted: A court has sentenced to life imprisonment nine Red Brigade terrorists after convicting them of murdering a Christian Democrat senator Roberto Ruffilli. (AP)

Plane crash: A Soviet military adviser died when his Congolese Air Force MiG-21 jet fighter crashed near the airport at Pointe-Noire, Soviet officials said on Saturday.

Col. Gennady Milschov was flying routine exercises at about 400 metres (1,300 feet) when he lost control of the aircraft, the Soviet official said. (AP)

IRA claims responsibility: The Irish Republican Army claimed responsibility on Saturday for killing two British soldiers in attacks. (See Page 5)

French groups want Kuwaiti paper banned for anti-Semitism

PARIS, June 2. (Renter): Jewish and racist groups called on the French government yesterday to forbid the sale of Kuwaiti newspaper, saying it was anti-Semitic.

The groups opposed to racism and anti-Semitism, SOS-Racisme and up, said they had urged Interior Minister Pierre Joxe to ban the sale in

Paris of the Kuwaiti daily Al-Qabas. The Paris office of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre, named after the celebrated Nazi hunter, accused the paper of inciting hatred of Jews in three editorials it published this year.

The centre said it had asked Joxe to ban two other Arabic publications, Al-Rai Al-Am of Kuwait and Al-Itihad of

the United Arab Emirates, for printing what it described as Nazi-style cartoons.

Since a Jewish cemetery in southern France was desecrated three weeks ago, Joxe has banned the import and sale of several neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic publications.

Bush and Gorbachev discuss 'global flashpoints' Accord on Start, trade

Business at hideaway

CAMP DAVID, Maryland, June 2. (Agencies): George Bush and Mikhail Gorbachev got down to unfinished summit business like German unity and regional disputes today amid the oak groves and breezes of this mountain-side hideaway where diplomatic magic sometimes happens.

"The most important thing we're going to discuss today is go over the planet and these hot flashpoints, to

discuss regional issues in other words," a relaxed-looking Gorbachev told reporters as he and the US President arrived here.

"And of course we will pursue our general discussions in order to understand each other better," Gorbachev added.

The two leaders, who were piped aboard by a US navy sailor in traditional Camp David style, looked oddly formal in business suits and ties but their mood was not.



A woman helps a man injured and bleeding after the bomb blast in Prague. (Reuters wirephoto)

20 hurt in Prague explosion

PRAGUE, June 2. (Reuters): About 20 people, including four children, were injured when a home-made bomb exploded in central Prague today, six days before Czechoslovakia's first free elections in 44 years.

"There are at least 11 people who were taken to hospital but several others went by themselves to seek first aid," senior police officer Jan Jancik said soon after the blast in the city's old town square.

Bohumil Seifra, head of the Prague ambulance service, said about 20 people had been injured, among them four children and one foreigner.

Most were suffering from facial injuries but the foreigner, a woman, had a serious eye injury, said Seifra, quoted by the state news agency CTK. He did not give the foreigner's nationality.

There was no immediate indication who was responsible for the explosion.

American photographer Larry Boyd was in the crowded square, one of central Prague's main tourist attractions, when the bomb exploded.

He said he heard a blast from the direction of the monument to Jan Hus, a medieval religious reformer.

"There was a huge blast and some people ran away with blood on their faces and one lay on the ground," Boyd said.

Gunmen kill 2 journalists

Army clamp down in Sind

KARACHI, June 2. (Agencies): Masked gunmen killed five people, including two journalists, in southern Pakistan today, raising the past week's death toll from political and ethnic violence to more than 350.

Reporters Ahmad Khan Kamal and Mutahir Hussain Nagvi were gunned down outside a telephone office near the family home of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in Larkana, soon after attending a news conference by the Sindhi nationalist leader Qamar Bhatti.

Kamal was a reporter for the Pakistan Press International news agency (PPI) and Nagvi a correspondent for the Urdu newspaper Nawa-i-Waqt and the English daily the Nation, PPI and police sources said.

A Christian couple was shot and killed at Badin, near Hyderabad, as they waited for a bus to the city, which has seen some of the worst of the latest wave of ethnic violence.

One man died and seven were wounded in the Sind provincial capital Karachi, in spite of a curfew in about half the city.

The Karachi Stock Exchange and other business centres reopened today after being closed for six days by the violence.

But with troops still enforcing a curfew, many businesses remained closed or were operating with few staff, a spokesman for the Karachi Chamber of Commerce and Industry said.

The government plans to hold a conference of all parties in Karachi on Wednesday to try to find a peaceful solution to the violence between native Sindhis and Mohajirs.

(Continued on Page 7)



Kashmir youths burn an Indian flag on Friday outside Srinagar's main mosque, protesting the killing of their Muslim priest, Maulvi Mohammed Farooq. (Reuters wirephoto)



Bush and Gorbachev talk as they ride in the golf cart shortly after arrival at Camp David. (Reuters wirephoto)



Gorbachev and Bush smile after they signed the agreements at a White House ceremony on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Here's the beef

WASHINGTON, June 2. (Agencies): Here, at a glance, are the US-Soviet agreements announced yesterday by President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at a White House ceremony.

■ A "framework" accord on the major elements of a strategic arms reduction treaty, or Start, to reduce each side's arsenal of long-range nuclear weapons by about one-third over a 7-year period.

■ Commitment to completing Start by year's end and to wind up another treaty on reducing conventional forces in Europe by the end of this year.

■ An accord ending production of US and Soviet chemical weapons and eliminating all but 5,000 tons of their existing chemical stockpiles. The deal is meant as a catalyst for a global agreement to ban production and possession of these weapons.

■ A trade agreement that would move the superpowers closer to normal commercial relations, but would not grant trade concessions until the Soviets pass a free emigration law.

■ A protocol spelling out anti-cheating measures for existing treaties that limit nuclear tests. The verification protocol will permit both nations to ratify the 1974 threshold test ban treaty and the 1976 peaceful nuclear explosions treaty, which limit US and Soviet underground nuclear tests to 150 kilotons.

■ An agreement expanding commercial air travel between the United States and the Soviet Union by adding four American and six Soviet cities to current air routes. It also will allow one more Soviet and six more US airlines to run the routes.

■ A new 5-year atomic energy agreement to provide closer co-operation in nuclear reactor safety, fusion energy and basic atomic science.

■ A grain deal committing the Soviets to buying at least 10 million tons annually, starting next year, of US wheat, feed grains and soybeans. That is an increase of 1 million tons annually from a current agreement that took effect in 1983.

■ A maritime transportation pact to make it easier for US and Soviet commercial vessels to deliver goods to ports in one another's country.

■ An agreement to open reciprocal cultural and information centres in Washington and Moscow.

■ The first government-to-government agreement to increase student exchanges between the two countries.

In addition, US and Soviet foreign ministers and other officials signed these accords:

■ Civil aviation agreement: Quadruples air services between the two countries and increases to 8.75 per cent of the number of seats on US carriers that can be paid for in roubles by Soviet travellers.

■ Ocean studies agreement: Provides for broad range of oceanographic research co-operation, use of port facilities in each other's countries and far-reaching scientific exchanges.

■ Maritime transportation: Commits both to eliminate discriminatory treatment, although it permits Soviet shippers to pay Soviet carriers in roubles as an interim measure.

It contains no provisions for cargo-sharing but does require the Soviets to charter US-flag carriers for Soviet government-controlled bulk cargoes whenever US carriers are available on terms equal to or better than those offered by non-US carriers.

Pakistan promoting terrorism

Singh warns

KUALA LUMPUR, June 2. (AP): Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh warned Pakistan today not to encourage secessionism in Punjab and Kashmir.

"But if they continue, there is nothing that we can do except to defend ourselves. And if they take one step, we will take two," said Singh, who is attending the Group of 15 economic co-operation conference for developing nations in Kuala Lumpur.

In an interview with the New Straits Times daily, Singh said although India has had wars with Pakistan and China over territorial disputes, there was one major difference.

"China, we believe, have reasons to believe is not playing any underhand game of promoting insur-

gency or secessionist movements on the Indian soil," he said.

"The one element (of difference) where Pakistan is concerned is that of promoting terrorism and insurgency, secessionist movements with a specific aim of severing territories. This one thing no country can accept," Singh said.

"The local problem of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir are not the problem of Punjab and Jammu Kashmir. Pakistan should take a serious view of what it is doing and not just issue formal denials."

A Kashmiri reporter was taken from his home by armed men today and witnesses said they were Indian soldiers. Indian officials denied Jameel had been arrested and said they were treating the case as a kidnapping. (See Page 7)

Soviets praise Gorby

Cautious German response on military future

MOSCOW, June 2. (AP) Many Soviets echoed Westerners' praise for President Mikhail Gorbachev's achievements at the Washington summit, but some complained he didn't deserve humanitarian awards and doubted his trip would improve their lives.

"Shame, again he has sold out all Russia," one woman shouted to a sidewalk crowd around her on Pushkin Square, a kind of Moscow speaker's corner a few blocks from the Kremlin.

She was referring to the five humanitarian awards Gorbachev received yesterday from Americans at the Soviet embassy in Washing-

ton for striving for peace and freedom.

Her comments reflected the contrast between Gorbachev's wild popularity abroad — where he is treated like a hero for loosening up Soviet society and helping bring peace and democracy to many parts of the world — and his unpopularity at home, where he is accused of ruining the economy and stifling freedom he himself unleashed.

A man in the crowd at Pushkin Square explained the people's mixed views of Gorbachev's foreign trips.

"He did much on the international arena, he earned points. But in

domestic policy, he tramples on progressives," Anatoly Bogudinov said.

If the awards to Washington were presented for Gorbachev's humanitarian actions, said the 40-year-old grey-haired man, the sponsors forgot about the basics. "The least we want is sausage, but he doesn't give it to us, and you ask whether he deserves these awards."

He asked a question of his own: what would the American people do if they had such a president?

"If Bush did everything on the international scene but nothing for his own country, the people wouldn't support him," Bogudinov said.

Positive Even criticizing the country's president, he noted, has been outlawed. The Supreme Soviet legislature passed a bill last month imposing a fine and jail sentence for insulting the Soviet president.

Diagonally across Pushkin Square, at the new McDonald's restaurant, Soviets sinking their teeth into America's classic family fare were generally more positive about their leader and his policies.

"We're very glad our relations are improving," said Oksana, a 23-year-old housewife eating ice cream on the second floor of McDonald's, which opened in January. "We're anxious for improvements in trade and anticipate that friendship with America will bring improvements in our lives."

The United States, she said, should help the Soviet Union out with handouts but co-operation, for instance joint business ventures.

Glasnost Another customer in the crowded restaurant said the sample fact he was talking to an American correspondent was a sign that glasnost was real.

"Five years ago we wouldn't be talking to you," said Sergei, a 28-year-old radioman for the Soviet military.

Leading Soviet newspapers today devoted large chunks of their front pages to the summit, most featuring photographs of a relaxed Gorbachev smiling with President Bush.

Central television screened at length triumphal scenes of the ceremonies and tours surrounding the summit. But the media remained rooted in the domestic crises awaiting Gorbachev's return.

Coverage Newspapers still give front page coverage to the troubled economy and the restive Parliament of the Russian Federation, the biggest and most powerful of the 15 Soviet republics.

A West German government official yesterday responded cautiously to a move by Gorbachev to break a stalemate over Germany's military future.

Gorbachev proposed to Bush at their summit that the matter be decided by a new "council of all Europe" with direct American participation.

A West German Foreign Ministry official said he had not seen the proposal and could not comment on it.

Careful He was careful not to express a negative or positive opinion of the proposal.

"We're waiting until Sunday when the American president and the American secretary of state report on their talks. Before then, we won't comment," said the ministry spokesman, who asked not to be identified.

He said some features of the proposal sounded similar to those previously made by Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher.

Gorbachev proposed annual meetings of the leaders of the 35 states making up the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE); meetings of their foreign ministers; establishment of a secretariat with permanent status; and establishment of conflict management centres.

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Gorbachev reaches across a car to greet pedestrians in downtown Washington during the evening rush hour on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Gorbymania in Washington

Baltic-Americans call for Vilnius recognition

WASHINGTON, June 2. (Reuters) A sudden appearance by Mikhail Gorbachev on Washington street whipped a huge crowd into frenzy yesterday and sparked shoving matches with tense security men who cut the encounter short.

The Soviet president was unhurt and merely seemed exasperated by his inability to mingle longer with the mass of people screaming "Gorby" and striving to touch him in a wild case of Gorbymania.

It was the sort of impromptu "walkabout" that has become a hallmark of his Washington visits. He stopped his motorcade on his way back to the Soviet embassy after White House talks with President George Bush and jumped out to shake hands with crowds jamming the street to see him pass.

Barheaded, in sunny spring weather, Gorbachev showed his way past a linked-arms security cordon his bodyguards and police tried to form and shook some hands in the crowd along one side.

But when he crossed the street for more of the same the crowd surged towards him with such force that the security guards closed ranks and shoved people back. They ignored

Gorbachev's hand-signals to let him through. He managed a few long-reach handshakes, threw up his hands in resignation and got back into his limousine.

Some people seemed near hysteria as they tried to catch the Soviet leader's attention. A few burst into tears as they wrestled with police.

"Oh, I've walked so long to see him, don't take him away," cried Tina Lazar, eyes brimming with tears, as a policeman held her back.

She said later she apparently startled the policeman when she burst through police lines screaming Gorbachev's name. One officer picked her up by the waist and carried her away while she begged him to let her meet the Kremlin chief.

"I was just standing there crying and shaking so much," she said. "He is to me one of the greatest heroes."

If the security guards have had enough of Gorbymania, many people on Friday's crowd found the whole thing thrilling.

"What a wonderful scene — this guy has brought Russia out of the dark ages," said lawyer Jack Mason, who watched from a

balcony at a nearby restaurant. Gift shop-worker Lani Murray said Gorbachev spoke to her and said he was going to go to Camp David for relaxed talks with Bush today "and there was fresh air there."

"It made me proud that I told the truth," Murray said. "I told him he was the man of the century."

Rallying under their national colours, Baltic-Americans cheered calls for Bush to deny improved trade status to the Soviet Union and bestow it instead on Lithuania.

"We call on our government to recognise the new government in Vilnius and extend most-favoured-nation status not to the USSR but to the government of Lithuania," said labour chief Lane Kirkland, president of the AFL-CIO, which includes most of the major unions in the United States.

Some 1,500 people, many wearing national dress as they stood on the steps and lawn, applauded and chanted, "thank you, thank you."

But protests elsewhere, representing an array of ethnic and political causes, were more sparsely attended.

Role of wife defended

Barbara speaks to Wellesley graduates

WELLESLEY, Massachusetts, June 2. (UPI) Barbara Bush defended her role as wife and mother yesterday, telling graduates at prestigious Wellesley College that society's success "depends not on what happens at the White House, but on what happens inside your house."

Some students at the women's college had protested the choice of Barbara as commencement speaker, but the welcome mat was out yesterday for Barbara and Soviet Raisa Gorbachev.

About 150 graduating seniors had signed a petition saying Barbara was an inappropriate choice to speak because she was known primarily for her husband's accomplishments.

School officials expected about 5,000 people to attend the graduation under a white tent set up among 19th-century stone towers and brick quadrangles on Wellesley's grassy, 500-acre (200 ha) rolling campus west of Boston.

Barbara and Raisa were scheduled to address students for about six minutes each before taking a quick tour of Boston and returning to Washington for a weekend of Soviet-American summit activities.

But Barbara defended her decision to be a homemaker and mother.

"One of the reasons I made the most important decision of my life — to marry George Bush — is because he made me laugh," she said. "It's true, sometimes we've laughed through our tears. But that shared laughter has been one of our strongest bonds."

She noted that the roles of men and women were changing.

"Maybe we should adjust faster, maybe slower," she said. "But whatever the era, whatever the times, one thing will never change: fathers and mothers, if you have children, they must come first."

"Your success as a family depends not on what happens at the White House, but on what happens inside your house."

She told the graduates, "at the end of your life you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more medal, or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a friend, a child or a parent."

Before the women spoke, students who had protested the Barbara choice released a letter to the first lady urging her to speak out more publicly on women's issues.

The cold war for Soviet and American first ladies formally ended in the bright sunshine of the Boston Public Gardens yesterday.

It was there that Raisa Gorbachev, whose feud with former First Lady Nancy Reagan became a White House and Red Square legend, declared a warm friendship for Mrs Reagan's successor, Barbara Bush.

And a clearly pleased Barbara just radiated with delight at the kind words from Raisa, who also put a hand on her arm as a gesture of friendship and support.

The two women were visiting school children in the park when a reporter asked Barbara how the two women got along.



Gorbachev waves from his limousine on his way to the White House on Friday. (Reuters wirephoto)

Summit

(Continued from Page 1)

km) away would be a tonic for them.

Raisa and Barbara flew by separate helicopter.

The Bush-Gorbachev flight included one remarkable touch of irony: one of their companions, Air Force Major Bruce Caughnaw, had strapped to his wrist the "Doonday" briefcase containing the codes Bush would need to launch nuclear war against the Soviet Union or anyone else.

The "nuclear football," as it is called, goes everywhere with the US President.

In a sign of the warming personal chemistry between Bush and Gorbachev, already evident at this summit, the two announced the Gorbachevs would stay two hours longer than scheduled and dine with the Bushs here.

Bush gets away to Camp David whenever he can and has said that if he can establish a special relationship with Gorbachev anywhere it is here, against a backdrop of sun-dappled forests and birdsong.

They will need all the rapport

they can muster to make any headway on US-Soviet disputes over inclusion of a united Germany in Nato and Moscow's crackdown on Lithuania.

Although aides did not list those topics among the agenda items, it seemed certain they would not pass up an opportunity to review such dominant and unresolved summit topics.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said the regional issues up for discussion included Afghanistan, Cuba, Cambodia and the Middle East.

US sources said they also expected Bush to seek Gorbachev's assessment of political and economic turmoil besetting the Soviet Union.

In a meeting yesterday with congressional leaders, he ridiculed America's support for Lithuania's independence.

Insisting that the Soviet Union only wanted Lithuanians to follow the constitutional process providing for secession, he added: "If you love freedom so much, where were you when Panama was invaded?"

Did he or he didn't, that's the question?

WASHINGTON, June 2. (Reuters) Did Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev know or didn't he?

Was he taking his policy of glasnost to dizzying new heights, or just taking US politicians for a ride with his one-upmanship and summit grandstanding?

That's what congressional leaders wanted to know yesterday after the Soviet embassy turned what was expected to be a private meeting with Gorbachev into a lively televised special.

The setting was the Soviet embassy, the Soviet leader's residence during his visit. He had invited a Senate and House of Representatives delegation for breakfast and talks.

But what the visitors apparently did not realise was that the exchange was being beamed by live television across the United States. They presumably thought the floodlights and cameras were filming for later news shows.

By all accounts the Americans were not amused.

Senate Republican leader Bob Dole was caught nodding his head in apparent agreement as Gorbachev denounced Israeli resettlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied West Bank.

Dole also left himself open to possible criticism for remarks that could be seen as currying favour with Gorbachev.

"I remember you told me in 1987... you wished we wouldn't pass so many resolutions in Congress," Dole said. He added: "I don't think we've done so many of those lately."

Dole's spokesman said it would be wrong to read too much into his boss's comments. He said Dole and probably the other lawmakers had no idea the 90-minute session was shown as it happened by the Cable News Network.

"I don't think any of them were aware," said Riker.

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Sharing a toast

US President George Bush and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev share a toast at the Soviet embassy in Washington on Friday during a dinner hosted by the Gorbachevs for the Bushs. (Reuters wirephoto)

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Actress Saint keeps her characters in the closet

LOS ANGELES, June 2, (Reuters): Academy award-winning actress Eva Marie Saint says she takes the characters she plays out of the closet in the morning and puts them back again at night.

"Some characters, however, refuse to stay in the closet. I try to divorce myself from the parts while I am not in front of the cameras, but sometimes it's difficult," she said in a recent interview with Reuters.

A case in point was her latest role, that of Lil Artemus, a vacuous New

York high society luminary in a US television mini-series "People Like Us."

"Lil is a very cold character. She is unable to express her love, she can't bring herself to physically touch people, she is a taker, not a giver, and I am exactly the opposite," Saint said.

Because of that she found the role difficult to play.

"I am naturally gregarious," she explained. "I love people and I am a touchy — you know, resting your hand on someone's arm while you're talking to them — and the director had

to keep telling me not to do that, that Lil was a really cold fish who would never dream of touching."

The 65-year-old actress, who won an Oscar for her role in "On the Waterfront" in which she starred with Marlon Brando, said that because she had to concentrate so much playing Lil the character would sneak up on her when she least expected it.

"It was very hard to keep Lil in the closet," she said.

"On a couple of occasions I became Lil. Unfortunately, they were both in public, when I was shopping. Twice I

snapped at salespeople, which is something Eva Marie Saint would never do, but which Lil would do all the time.

"On both occasions I apologised profusely. I was simply overcome with embarrassment. I mean, it just wasn't like me."

In "People Like Us" Saint's character has a son with AIDS whom she loves but can't express her love, and a daughter she hates.

"When Lil is alone, away from the glitter of high society, she is rather pathetic. I have known people like that

in New York."

The character also served to reinforce one of Saint's creeds in life, she said.

"As much as she (Lil) loves her own son, because she is always thinking of herself, she misfires every time."

"One of the finest gifts you can give your children is to teach them to give. Don't spoil them. Don't send them out into the world taking."

The actress has two children, Darrell, 35, and Laurette, 32, and recently became a grandmother. She has been

married to film and television producer Jeffrey Hayden for 39 years.

She says her enduring and loving relationship with her husband helped her in another recent role, that of Marilyn Klinghoffer, in another television mini-series, "Voyage of Terror: The Achille Lauro Affair."

The four-hour film was based on the hijacking of an Italian cruise ship by Palestinian commandos during which Marilyn's husband, wheelchair-bound Leon Klinghoffer, played in the series by Kirk Douglas, was killed.

Cardin plans

Espace on Alma Ata TV tower

PARIS, June 2, (AP): White House and Mikhail Gorbachev were fashioning summit statements in Washington. Pierre Cardin returned from a Soviet visit to report progress on the economic front.

The couturier-entrepreneur-restaurantier said he signed a contract for a new restaurant to be called "Espace," like his Paris theatre-restaurant, to be built in the capital of Kazakhstan, the Soviet Union's third-largest republic lying along part of its border with China.

"We'll be right on top of everything," said Cardin on Thursday, following his return.

His restaurant will be constructed within the next few months on the top of a television tower in Alma Ata — a city surrounded by peaks as high as 4,000 metres (13,000 feet).

"I'm the first Frenchman to set up shop in this area that promises a great touristic future," Cardin said. "The new houses are low-rise and don't interfere at all with the grandiose countryside."

Cardin, who bought the Paris Maxim's 10 years ago and built branches world-wide, is no newcomer to the Soviet Union. He set up 32 factories two years ago to manufacture his Paris designs under a franchise agreement.

"Alma Ata, like all the Soviet Union, is opening up to fashion," said Cardin, who attended a fashion show put on by the city's couture school. "I was happily surprised that young women so far from the world's fashion centres have so much talent."

Raisa Gorbachev, wife of the Soviet president, became a Cardin admirer in 1985 when she visited the Cardin salons during a state visit to France.

Besides his "Espace" agreement, Cardin also signed a license contract with the president of Kazakhstan to produce fur jackets and coats using abundant local resources: 30 million sheep being raised in the area.

Cardin also signed a licensing agreement on May 28 in Poland to manufacture clothes with the Cardin label, and plans to open two boutiques soon in Warsaw.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

LAFAYETTE, Louisiana: Here is an unusual list — the best excuse for avoiding traffic tickets.

"One person said he was reaching for his hamster, because the thing got loose in the car. One man said he could not read — so he could not read the speed limit sign," said policeman Ray Schneider, known as "write 'em up Ray."

Schneider has handed out 10,882 tickets in seven years and keeps his excuse collection in a bound yellow notebook.

"I have the 66 best excuses, but there are some duplications," he said. "The most popular one is 'I'm late for work.' And it doesn't matter what time it is either."

Some people claim their car cannot possibly go as fast as the ticket says. One speeder said he was on the way to help a cow give birth. Another was hurrying home to check his motor, because a cat was caught in it.

But sometimes Schneider softens up.

Once he said, a man stopped for speeding said he wanted to get to the hospital before his wife's operation began. Schneider believed the man and let him go.

He later got a letter from the man, saying his wife had died on the operating table and Schneider had given him the extra minutes he needed to see her. (AP)

SAN DIEGO, California: Bob Hope had them tittering at the University of San Diego commencement with greetings to parents finishing up the "last payment" on their children. Hope, 86, and his wife Dolores collected honorary degrees from the school Sunday before a crowd of about 9,000. (AP)

NEW YORK: Brothers Nelson Bunker Hunt and William Herbert Hunt, the former Dallas billionaires, are under orders to sell their Greek and Roman art collection to pay back taxes and other debts.

The ancient Greek vases, Roman bronzes and coins have been valued by Sotheby's at more than \$20 million and will be sold by the auction house in New York and London during the next year, the New York Times reported today. (AP)

NEW YORK: Eight journalists were named Friday as recipients of the Knight-Ridder fellowships in economics and business journalism, the Columbia University graduate school of journalism announced.

The fellowships, founded in 1975, provide formal business and economics training to experienced journalists. Each recipient spends an academic year at Columbia's schools of business, law, and international and public affairs. (AP)

AMSTERDAM: A Dutch court on Friday turned down an appeal by a man convicted of stealing three paintings by Vincent Van Gogh, worth tens of millions of dollars each.

The 38-year-old Dutchman, identified only as A.W.B., was sentenced last October to five years in prison for his part in the 'Netherlands' biggest ever art theft.

The case of a second man, also sentenced to five years in prison, will be heard on June 29, a court spokeswoman said on Friday. (Reuters)

NEW YORK: New York's powerful city council president is squaring off against his newly elected mayor over one of the city's most durable features: delicatessens.

New York City council president Andrew Stein said Thursday that all but two of a dozen take-out lunches he had tested at a private laboratory were contaminated with illegal levels of bacteria.

Stein, whose aides collected each sample at a different restaurant, blamed a lack of inspections by the city's health department. The possible result: Deli belly, the nausea, cramps and diarrhoea caused by eating tainted food. (AP)

EAST BERLIN: A wayward East German tractor managed to kill 16 bulls outright without even touching them, the official Adn news agency reported on Wednesday.

The tractor, engine on but driver nowhere in sight, began bumping through a field near Greiz in the south of the country.

It got caught in the bumper of a car and dragged the vehicle through a fence. The car then hit an electricity pylon, which fell on a farm building, killing the bulls inside.

It was not clear whether the bulls were crushed or electrocuted. (Reuters)



Change of profession?

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher plays the drums while visiting EMI's Abbey Road studios on May 31. The studio was used by the Beatles to record their famous 'Abbey Road' album. (Reuters wirephoto)

West German expert claims Fake Van Goghs

LONDON, June 2, (Reuters): A West German art expert was quoted yesterday as saying he believed up to 30 paintings by Van Gogh, whose works have set price records, are fakes.

Other art historians attending a symposium on Van Gogh in London described the claim as exaggerated, although they agreed that not all paintings attributed to the profile Dutch painter were authentic.

Roland Dorn, a Van Gogh expert from the folkwang museum in Essen, told the Times there were 20 to 30 paintings in the "catalogue raisonné" or definitive list of paintings officially attributed to Van Gogh "which do not really belong."

Dorn said many fakes are thought to have been produced between 1900 and 1914, well after the artist committed suicide at the age of 37 having sold only one painting in his life.

Evert Van Uiter, professor of modern art at the University of Amsterdam, told reporters at the symposium that he agreed with some of Dorn's claims.

He cited a self-portrait Van Gogh had given his friend Paul Gauguin which was copied by a Miss Gerard.

"The painting was exactly the same as the one Gauguin had but Gerard added a few extra flowers in the background as a private joke," Van Uiter said.

VANCOUVER, Canada: The Karaoke bar is a smash hit in Vancouver. More than 10 of the Japanese-style sing-along bars and restaurants have opened in the past 12 months, providing would-be singers with the chance to render their favourite songs in public.

Karaoke is a Japanese concept in which pre-taped backing music is played for customers who take up a microphone and sing along. Karaoke players cost about \$1,350 in Canada. (AP)

Leeuwarden, Netherlands: Backling up brings a boom in the Netherlands, where police and a private road safety group are planning to hand out stereo equipment to drivers obeying the nation's 19-year-old seat belt law.

But the scheme to distribute 100 compact disc players among law-abiding motorists has already come under fire from a newspaper calling it a waste of money. (AP)

MUNICH, West Germany: A hotel manager has been arrested on charges of selling \$20,000 fraudulent tickets for this year's production of the world-renowned

CNN marks low-key birthday

ATLANTA, June 2, (Reuters): Cable News Network, the global all-news television channel, marked its 10th anniversary yesterday in low-key style — a sharp contrast to the hype attending its 1980 launch.

From humble beginnings in which maverick media mogul Ted Turner hired a group of journalists to operate a 24-hour news channel in the United States, Cable News Network (CNN) has grown to a point where it is seen in 92 countries around the world.

Analysts say the growth could continue both in the United States and in the foreign

markets where CNN has become a must for many government and business leaders who want to monitor major breaking news developments as they happen.

Turner and CNN face competition in international markets from broadcast suppliers like News Corp's British-based Sky Channel.

But industry experts point to strategic alliances as ways to reduce costs. In one such move, a CNN spokesman said there is an "agreement in principle" to share costs with rival CBS for a news bureau to be opened in West Berlin.

CNN represented a \$100 million gamble by Turner when it went on air on June 1, 1980, but it now is reckoned by financial analysts to be worth at least \$2 billion.

Amid widespread scepticism and ridicule from the New York-based television establishment, CNN went live with only 1.7 million US homes able to receive its 24-hour all-news programmes.

A decade later, the network is available in 55 million US homes and Atlanta has become an international media centre with CNN programmes seen in 92 nations.

Improved products unveiled at show

CHICAGO, June 2, (AP): Last year it was hand-held video games, watchable walkmans and interactive compact discs. This year, it's digital audio tape, scaled-down camcorders and movie-theatre sound for the home.

Every year, millions of dollars in new electronics technology goes on display at the consumer electronics show, but what does it mean for someone who bought last year's innovation and now faces bewildering new choices?

"Products will continue to be put out with new features and new bells and whistles," acknowledged Marvin Lurie, spokesman for the association of Retail Dealers of America, based in suburban Chicago.

"The only way to get it sorted out is to go to a qualified dealer who can explain the benefits," Lurie said yesterday. He said his group represents about 20 per cent of US consumer electronics retailers.

Many of those retailers will be among the estimated 55,000 visitors to the annual show, beginning today. Some 1,400 manufacturers will be showing tens of thousands of products for four days in an area equivalent to the size of 17 soccer fields.

"We are the (primary) industry show," said Tom Lauterback, spokesman for the consumer electronics group of the Washington-based Electronics Industries Association, sponsor of the June show in Chicago and a similar January show in Las Vegas.

The shows are closed to the public.

Consumer Electronics, a \$44-billion-a-year industry that includes audio, video, home office and home-automation products has slowed to "single-digit" growth, but "I suppose every industry would love to be able to say that," Lauterback said yesterday.

Unlike in past years, "we don't have on hand a product that everyone is going to want but no one has," said Lurie.

"Digital Audio Tape might be that, except that if it comes on the market later this year, it's not going to come at a mass-market price," he said. DAT systems are expected to retail at \$1,000-1,200.

Though DAT technology has existed for years, it wasn't until Wednesday that a Japanese government agency announced new technology standards that will open that country's market for DAT players.

The players can make nearly perfect copies of pre-recorded music, but manufacturers have held off marketing them for fear of lawsuits over copyright disputes.

Japan's new standards are designed to limit consumers' ability to make new copies. The US Congress is scheduled to hold hearings this month on a proposal to adopt similar standards in the United States.

Political problems similarly plague high-resolution television, said Don Krueger, senior vice-president and director of research for Sanyo Securities of America, the US arm of one of Japan's biggest brokerage firms.



I wanna hold your hand

Soviet First Lady Raisa Gorbachev and US First Lady Barbara Bush holds hands with Boston school children as they sing together in Boston Public Gardens, June 1. (Reuters wirephoto)

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MADE IN JAPAN

Police join FBI to probe prostitute slayings

WASHINGTON, June 2, (UPI): Police from the United States' capital and its Virginia suburbs have joined with the FBI to investigate the slayings of at least seven prostitutes in the past 13 months, authorities said yesterday.

Police in Alexandria, Virginia, disclosed yesterday that an unidentified woman whose body was found Wednesday night died from asphyxiation, the same cause of death as two prostitutes found slain last weekend in neighbouring Arlington.

If that victim, a white female under the age of 20 with brownish-blond hair, is determined to have been a prostitute, she would be the eighth victim.

While police said they are not sure if they are dealing with a serial killer, they have found many similarities among the slayings.

All of the seven identified prostitutes worked along the same 14th street strip in downtown Washington, all were white and in their 20s, and all had blond or light-coloured hair, police said.

The FBI is assisting local police through its violent crimes apprehension programme, which helps profile criminals who commit violent acts, Barbara Wallace, a spokeswoman for the FBI Washington field office, said yesterday.

FBI agents will investigate the slayings and try to create a profile of a possible suspect or suspects, said Wallace.

"The more crimes that are committed in the same way, it could conceivably be a multiple or serial type," she said.

INTERNATIONAL

Quebec premier optimistic

Canada's leaders will work out crisis

MONTREAL, June 2. (Reuters): Quebec Premier Robert Bourassa said yesterday he is optimistic that Canada's leaders will work out their bitter constitutional differences rather than risk the country's unity.

But Bourassa made it clear he was not prepared to make any concessions on the Meech Lake accord, the constitutional amendment at the heart of the conflict that threatens to tear Canada apart.

The accord would give Quebec some of the powers it seeks over immigration and other policies to ensure the preservation of its French-speaking culture.

The premiers of the mainly English-speaking provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland and Manitoba have refused to approve it, saying the accord would hand Quebec too much power.

"Never has English Canada been presented with such modest demands," Bourassa told

Reuters in an interview yesterday. He said Quebec had whittled down its list from 22 demands to five.

"I am reasonably optimistic the accord will be ratified," he said. Referring to the recalcitrant premiers, he said, "to refuse (to ratify it) would be to take a big risk with Canada's future."

In a last effort to resolve the crisis that has reawakened Quebec's separatist yearnings, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has summoned the 10 premiers to a meeting on Sunday in Ottawa.

The Meech Lake accord, which essentially shifts some federal powers to the provinces, was unanimously approved in 1987 but some provincial leaders elected since then have refused to ratify the pact.

As the June 23 ratification deadline approaches, the impasse has turned into a

political nightmare. Polls show most Quebecers would want to secede from Canada if the Meech Lake accord was rejected and English Canadians wonder what kind of country they would be left with.

Bourassa, a liberal, is not a separatist, not even a closet one. "My first choice is clearly to stay within Canada," he said in a recent television interview.

He campaigned for the federalists during the critical 1980 referendum on whether Quebec should separate, an option Quebecers rejected. He is also a longtime friend of Mulroney, who is working round-the-clock to prevent Canada's breakup.

But given the restless mood of his constituents, Bourassa cannot give in to English Canada without exposing his flank to the separatist Parti Quebecois, the party which defeated him as premier in a humiliating election sweep in the 1970s.

Bonn bans beef fearing disease

Britain's cattle industry hurt

PARIS, June 2. (AP): West Germany joined France yesterday in banning British beef imports because of "mad cow" disease, while the European Economic Community offered to buy 20,600 tons of meat to support Britain's troubled cattle industry.

France, which normally purchases more than half of exported British beef, imposed a ban Wednesday, fearing some meat might be tainted by bovine spongiform encephalopathy, an increase and fatal nervous disorder.

West Germany — which already had barred imports of British beef still on the bone — emulated France yesterday by extending the ban to canned beef as well.

Luxembourg later announced a ban on imports of British beef, said an EEC Commission spokesman in Brussels.

Bomb goes off in Cartagena

Woman hurt seriously

BOGOTA, June 2. (UPI): A bomb placed in an ice cream vendor's cart exploded yesterday in the Caribbean resort city of Cartagena within a block of the secret police headquarters, officials said.

An elderly woman was seriously hurt and two other people also suffered wounds in the explosion just before 6 pm, said Gen. Octavio Vargas Silva, operations director of the National Police who was in the city. The radio news network RCN later read off the names of eight people it reported were wounded.

Vargas Silva, who was in the city at the time of the explosion, indicated the bomb may be part of a plan by terrorists from Medellin, headquarters of the warring Medellin cartel of cocaine traffickers.

Just a day earlier, a powerful car bomb carrying more than 500 pounds of dynamite with its fuse lit was deactivated in the same city, site of the Feb 15 anti-drug summit President Bush attended with three South American presidents and 415 miles north of Bogota.

Yesterday's bomb exploded near a church and a school just a block from the headquarters of

the secret police who are part of the force spearheading the war against the powerful Colombia cocaine cartels, authorities said.

The man who set off the bomb, identified as Hernando Bermudez Garces, was captured immediately after the explosion by citizens who live in the area, Vargas Silva said. He said the suspect was from the cocaine-dominated town of La Estrella near Medellin.

The Friday explosion and the huge bomb deactivated the night before appeared to be related, Vargas Silva told the Bogota radio station RCN.

"There is a lot of relation (between the two bombs), a lot of relation because we have information about the presence of some people who have come from Medellin," the police general said.

Asked if a terrorist plan was afoot to set off a number of bombs, Vargas Silva replied, "we have taken a series of actions not only in Cartagena but also in Medellin and Bogota. We are prepared for whatever terrorist act."

The bomb exploded on the same day as the newly elected mayor, Nicolas Cuir Vergara, took office.

Vaccine protects chimps from Aids

SAN FRANCISCO, June 2. (AP): A vaccine has been developed that protected chimpanzees from the virus that causes Aids in humans, a biotechnology company announced yesterday.

Officials of Genentech Inc., the south San Francisco company that sponsored the research, warned against premature optimism for the vaccine, which they hope to begin testing in humans this summer.

The vaccine is among several being developed in hopes of finding a way to protect people from contracting acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which attacks the body's immune system leaving its victims vulnerable to deadly cancers and ailments.

"We have fairly high hopes for this, but it will take years to develop anything that could protect humans from Aids," said Jack Murphy, Genentech spokesman. "This, right now, is more of a scientific development and certainly not a breakthrough."

The US Food and Drug Administration must approve the vaccine for testing on human before further research can begin, Genentech said.

Vaccines don't cure a disease, but prevent those who have been vaccinated from becoming infected.

The Genentech vaccine is genetically engineered as are two other vaccines that have been approved by the FDA for testing in people infected with the human immunodeficiency virus or HIV, the virus that causes Aids.

One of the vaccines, approved for testing in August 1987, was developed by Microgenics Inc. of West Haven, Connecticut. The second, developed by Bristol-Myers-Squibb Co. of New York, was approved for human trials in November 1987.

Dr. Jonas Salk, who developed a vaccine for polio, also is testing an experimental vaccine made from inactivated Aids virus that are replicated and don't contain anything that could be infectious.

"The hardest part about developing these vaccines is they're very specific and work against only one type of virus," Murphy said. Eventually, he said a vaccine must be developed that protects against all strains of the disease.

Philip W. Berman of Genentech and Jorg Eichberg of the Southwest Biomedical Research Center of San Francisco, Texas, developed the Genentech vaccine for chimpanzees that were housed in Texas during the experiment.

The research is to be published in the British medical journal Nature. Genentech got permission from the journal to announce the findings early so it could be reported at the company's upcoming annual shareholders' meeting.

In the experiment, two chimpanzees immunized with the experimental vaccine and then injected with the HIV virus remained healthy six months afterward. An unvaccinated chimpanzee became infected within seven weeks, the researchers said.

Genetically engineered interferon-alpha slowed the progress of Aids in a small study involving 34 infected patients without symptoms. US National Institutes of Health researchers reported yesterday.

A TORNADO churned across a Texas highway last night, causing accidents that killed at least two people and damaging nearby homes, authorities said.

At least 19 people were reported injured when the twister struck cars, homes and buildings outside the west Texas town of Iraan, said state department of public safety spokesman Mike Cox.

Two people were killed in car accidents caused by the twister, Cox said. "We had one family whose whole house fell



Bocanegra (right) and his wife Aurora mourn their daughters Erica and Ivonne killed in a recent earthquake in Soritor, Peru on May 31. (Reuters wirephoto)



Soritor residents hold a row of coffins on May 31 prior to entering a cemetery to bury them. (Reuters wirephoto)

Peru seeks foreign aid

Little help reaches quake survivors

SORITOR, Peru, June 2. (Reuters): Peru appealed for foreign aid for its earthquake victims yesterday, but survivors bitterly complained that they had received little help and were instead awaiting aid from leftist guerrillas.

Civil defence officials counted the bodies of 101 people after the quake shook a wide swath of northern Peru on Tuesday night, the first of several quakes around the world this week from Romania to Mexico.

Roads to remote Amazon hamlets, where the quake struck hard, were still cut by landslides and fallen trees, but officials said they did not expect the death toll to rise much higher.

Survivor slept in rice paddies and mango tree groves outside the ruined farming town of Soritor. No tents and only a few boxes of food and medicine donated by the Catholic church had reached their hands, residents said.

"They promised to bring tents, but we haven't seen any. My children and I have been sleeping out in the fields under a tree," said Dora Torres Rasco.

whose mud-brick home collapsed in the 48-second quake.

Civil defence officials said they had asked for emergency aid from the United States, Japan and France, and were expecting a shipment of tents from Chile yesterday.

Officials in Lima admitted there were delays in getting aid into the hands of quake victims in this shattered farm town, one of those hit hardest.

"We're a bit short on tents, but we have been sending plenty of food and medicines. If there have been distribution problems, they will be resolved quickly," said Civil Defence Corps spokesman Manuel Pancorvo in Lima.

A military helicopter due to evacuate about 25 injured quake victims to Lima was grounded yesterday because there was not enough fuel for the flight, radio reports said.

Villagers, some of them weeping as they contemplated the ruins of their mud-brick homes, used shovels and their bare hands to dig in the rubble for belongings.

Columbia Launch delayed until June

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, June 2. (Reuters): US space officials said yesterday that the space shuttle Columbia will not fly before June 10 because inspectors have not yet found the fuel leak that grounded the ship on Tuesday.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (Nasa) said it had assigned lunch crews to other chores.

Officials characterised the test as a last-ditch effort to find the leak.

North testifies New Iran-Contra probe

WASHINGTON, June 2. (AP): Oliver North began testifying yesterday before a special federal panel conducting a new investigation into the Iran-Contra scandal.

The former White House aide was ushered before the grand jury — a panel assembled to decide whether charges should be filed in a case — by a prosecutor from the office of independent counsel Lawrence Walsh. North left the grand jury room briefly to confer with his attorneys and then went back into the room to resume testifying.

Sources familiar with the investigation said in April that North and former national security adviser John Poindexter were likely to be subpoenaed. Walsh's office is trying to determine the precise roles that then-president Ronald Reagan, then vice-president George Bush and others played in the arms-for-hostages affair, said the sources, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Tornado twister churns across Texas, 2 killed, 19 hurt

A TORNADO churned across a Texas highway last night, causing accidents that killed at least two people and damaging nearby homes, authorities said.

At least 19 people were reported injured when the twister struck cars, homes and buildings outside the west Texas town of Iraan, said state department of public safety spokesman Mike Cox.

Two people were killed in car accidents caused by the twister, Cox said. "We had one family whose whole house fell

in on them," said Bonnie Burton, director of nurses at McCamey County hospital.

The twister also blew down an old gymnasium and damaged the McCamey Water Supply. The city's 2,400 residents were warned to conserve water for the next couple of days.

Several other Tornadoes were reported in the area.

Elsewhere yesterday, residents of the Texas panhandle town of Spearman cleared wreck-

age left in the wake of a swarm of funnel clouds Thursday, and citizens in waterlogged Vicksburg, Mississippi, swept out mud left by record flash flooding.

About 80 per cent of Spearman was blacked out and phone service was spotty until yesterday morning.

There was disagreement over just what caused the damage in Spearman late Thursday. Residents and witnesses said three funnel clouds caused the damage even though they didn't quite touch down.

Collor faces port strike

SAO PAULO, June 2. (Reuters): Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello, who earlier suffered his first major defeat in Congress, yesterday faced his first national strike as unions paralysed ports around the country.

Union leader Borges Pereira said about 150,000 port workers were on strike in protest against government plans for dismissals and said the union wants a 246 per cent pay rise.

Congress voted 149-133 on Thursday to reject a presidential decree that limited the powers of local labour courts. Collor's decree stated any wage agreements made by local courts could be suspended by a higher labour court, a decree strongly criticised by trade unions.

The president's office said yesterday that Collor had issued a new decree along the same lines as the first.

The newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo quoted four leading lawyers as saying the reinstatement of the decree was unconstitutional, but Professor Helio Jaguaribe, dean of Brazil's political scientists, told Reuters "the economic crisis justified Collor's tactic."

The newspaper, in a lead editorial headlined "Defeat of Collor," said the vote "represents, above all, a very serious sign of the political weakening of the Collor government."

The port strike and the defeat in Congress capped a difficult week for Collor, who is fighting to curb inflation that was running at an annual rate of nearly 5,000 per cent when he took office in March.

The government's Statistics Institute announced earlier that consumer prices in May had risen by 7.87 per cent, more than twice the April level. Commentators said Congress' rejection of the labour court, decree hurt government attempts to hold down wage increases.

Collor began his term with a sweeping economic reform programme, freezing more than \$100 billion for an average of 24 months to drive down prices.

But through government concessions, business ingenuity and fraud, the amount of money frozen in bank accounts fell to about \$60 billion, according to official estimates.

Public support for the 40-year-old president seems firm in spite of the setbacks, with opinion polls showing 70 per cent support.

■ **Venezuela:** Riot police on Thursday dispersed university students who held a series of protests around the country over proposed petrol and transport price increases, police said yesterday.

A police spokesman said five officers and three students were slightly injured, but no arrests were made during one clash in Los Teques, a town 15 miles (25 km) southwest of Caracas. (Reuters)

■ **Guatemala:** Guerrilla leaders agreed yesterday to suspend sabotage in Guatemala's intermittent civil war in exchange for an agreement to let them help revise the nation's constitution next year.

The agreement fell short of a full ceasefire. (UPI)

■ **Nicaragua:** Foreign Minister Enrique Dreyfus said yesterday he will meet in Rome with representatives of 30 Western countries to appeal for \$100 million in donations.

The countries, known as the Stockholm Group because they first met to consider aid to Nicaragua in Stockholm earlier this year, will gather on Wednesday to reopen talks about financial support to the Central American nation, Dreyfus said at a news conference in Managua. (AP)

■ **Antigua:** A judicial inquiry into the alleged shipment of Israeli arms through the Caribbean island of Antigua to a Colombian drug lord opened yesterday but was adjourned until July 16.

The commissioner in charge of the inquiry, British lawyer Louis Blom Cooper, said he had been told that several potential witnesses had not co-operated in the investigation. (Reuters)

■ **El Salvador:** El Salvador President Alfredo Cristiani yesterday began his second year in office by proclaiming it a "year of peace" — even as rebels knocked out electricity and tied up roads in the country. (Reuters)

■ **Salvadoran military court:** will try three men accused of the massacre of 13 people, including four US marines, who died at a popular San Salvador cafe in 1985, court sources said yesterday. (Reuters)

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A policeman looks over a pool of blood and scattered luggage left after three British soldiers were shot when masked gunmen opened fire in Lichfield, Staffordshire June 1. (Reuters wirephoto)

Actor Harrison dies

He was a man's man, says ex-wife Palmer

NEW YORK, June 2. (AP) Sir Rex Harrison, the 82-year-old actor famed for his stage career and film roles in "My Fair Lady," "Major Barbara" and "Blithe Spirit," died today, his lawyer said.

Attorney Harold Schiff said the actor died of pancreatic cancer in his sleep at his east midtown New York city residence.

He had appeared in his last play, "The Circle," a revival of a 1920s comedy by W. Somerset Maugham, on Broadway until last month. He missed the last nine days of the run because of illness, said Jeffrey Richards, a spokesman for the play's producers.

Harrison, who won an Academy Award for his portrayal of Henry Higgins in the 1964 film version of "My Fair Lady," was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II last summer.

"I think they rather like to leave awarding honours until you get to a certain age," Harrison said in an interview at the time. "It was a marvelous moment kneeling there and getting tapped on each shoulder."

Harrison said then that he had no intention of retiring, saying: "I wouldn't know what to do."

Among his films were "Doctor Dolittle," 1967, and "The Yellow Rolls-Royce," 1964. But his most famous film role was as the stuffy language Professor Higgins in "My Fair Lady," who falls in love with a cockney waif after teaching her how to speak proper English.

"He was like all very great stars. He was temperamental, he was excitable and he was very funny," his agent, Lawrence Evans, said in London.

"He had the best sense of humour of almost any actor I have ever known," said Evans, who worked with the actor for more than 40 years. "He was a lovable, irascible man."

Harrison was born in Huyton, near Liverpool on March 5, 1908, and joined the Liverpool repertory theatre in 1924.

His first appearance on the London stage was in 1930 and by the end of the decade he emerged as a star, having played in Rattigan's "French Without Tears" from 1936 to 1938.

The first of his six marriages was in 1934 to Collette Thomas, a French teacher.

Marriage number two was to actress Lili Palmer in 1943 and she accompanied him as he began his American career.

Asked what sort of a husband he was Miss Palmer once said: "He was a man's man an Englishman."



Dalai Lama meets Pope

Pope John Paul II greets the Dalai Lama in his library at the Vatican for private talks June 1. The Dalai Lama, Tibet's spiritual leader, has been touring Italy for two weeks. (Reuters wirephoto)

Wales has successfully registered with the government as a limited company to prevent dissident "cranks" from using its name.

The government on Friday got a court order to block a mass meeting and walkout by civil servants who objected to handling the paperwork for the registration.

Leaders of more than 700 union members at companies house, which handles all business records in England and Wales, were served with an injunction just minutes before they were to hold the meeting.

Bonn hunts killers of British army officer

IRA claims responsibility for the shootings

LONDON, June 2. (Agencies) The Irish Republican Army today claimed responsibility for murdering a British soldier outside his home in West Germany and another on a railway platform in England.

"Active service units of the Irish Republican Army carried out two separate operations against British military personnel in England and West Germany last night," the IRA said in a statement issued in Dublin, Ireland.

"While British troops remain in Ireland, such attacks will continue," said the statement distributed to news media. IRA claims of responsibility for attacks in Britain and Europe normally are made in the Irish capital.

Earlier today, Defence Secretary Tom King indicated he believed the IRA was responsible for both killings.

"There is no argument or reason in this. It is simply that they are out to kill," King told Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency.

"They are out to cover the humiliation of their mistake in killing two young Australians in Holland."

The attack in Germany came six days after an IRA unit shot and killed two Australian tourists in Roermond in the Netherlands. The IRA said the victims had been mistaken for British soldiers.

The Defence Ministry said Maj. Michael John Dillon-Lee of the Royal Artillery was shot today as he drove with his wife from the military base in Dortmund, West Germany to their home.

Dillon-Lee was shot several times in the head after he stopped his car in front of his house, the ministry said. He died immediately, but his wife was not injured. German police said one of their officers was shot and wounded as police cars chased the gunmen, who escaped.

In Britain, meanwhile, police said they were looking for two men who fled the scene of the shooting of three other soldiers at Lichfield city train station, 100 miles (160 kilometres) northwest of London. Police initially were reported to have worn masks, but Lichfield police said it appeared neither man was masked.

Chief inspector Tony Johnson of the Staffordshire Police said the shooting "bears the hallmarks of an IRA attack." He did not elaborate.

Authorities said the three soldiers were shot while waiting on a platform for a train on Friday. Witnesses said the gunfire sent commuters fleeing.

The three soldiers, who were in training at the Lichfield army base, were waiting for a train to nearby Birmingham for weekend leave, said detective chief superintendent Malcolm Bevington.

He said two men appeared on the platform, pulled out handguns and shot the soldiers, then jumped onto the tracks, ran across the line and through a builder's yard opposite the station.

The IRA wants to unite the predominantly Protestant Northern Ireland with the Catholic Republic of Ireland in a single socialist state.



A coffin with the body of Major Dillon-Lee is carried away by police personnel, June 2. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviet cable car mishap

MOSCOW, June 2. (AP) A cable car broke loose yesterday from an aerial tramway at a popular tourist attraction in Georgia, and passengers were hurled onto the roof of an apartment building. At least 20 people were reported killed.

The passengers were riding the two-gondola tramway up to Mount Matsminda in downtown Tbilisi, the official Tass news agency said. Iveria, an unofficial Georgian information agency, and witnesses said at least 20 people plunged to their deaths and 15 others were injured.

The leading steel cable burst and one of the two cars started to slide down, accelerating very quickly on the other cable, Iveria said. "Half way down, the car collided with a support pole and split in two."

According to Iveria, "the passengers fell out of the car onto the top of a six-storey apartment building and into its yard."



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and Continuing Education

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Centre for Community Service and Continuing Education has the pleasure to announce that:

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4. Full tuition fee is paid upon application (KD35/- each).
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7. One passport photograph required.

Tel. No. 4830804/4819241 Khaldiah Campus

Delta rocket with X-ray observatory, blasts off from Cape Canaveral

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, June 2. (AP) The US space agency has successfully launched an unmanned rocket that has taken an observatory aloft to scour the heavens for the source of X-rays.

The Delta rocket blasted off from a Cape Canaveral launchpad yesterday.

The \$273 million West German observatory, called Rosat was boosted 43 minutes later into an orbit high above earth.

Ground controllers were unable to immediately confirm the spacecraft had separated from the booster because of a brief loss of radio contact.

But they later picked up a strong radio signal that indicated the satellite had separated and was safely in orbit.

"It's the finest X-ray telescope that's ever been flown," NASA programme scientist Alan N. Bunner said. "As our instruments improve, it always opens the

door to discoveries."

Rosat is short for Roentgen Satellite, named after German Scientist Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen, who discovered X-rays in 1895.

Rosat will take pictures of objects sending off high-energy X-rays, while Astro's X-ray telescope will measure the objects' temperature, pressure and composition, called spectroscopy.

Rosat originally was to have flown on a

shuttle in 1987, but was redesigned to fit into the Delta after the 1986 Challenger explosion meant waiting until the mid-1990s for a shuttle ride.

"You can imagine how eager we are that we now get the thing off the ground," said Joachim Truemper, Rosat programme scientist for West Germany's Federal Ministry for Research and Technology.

About 1,000 sources of cosmic X-rays are known to exist.

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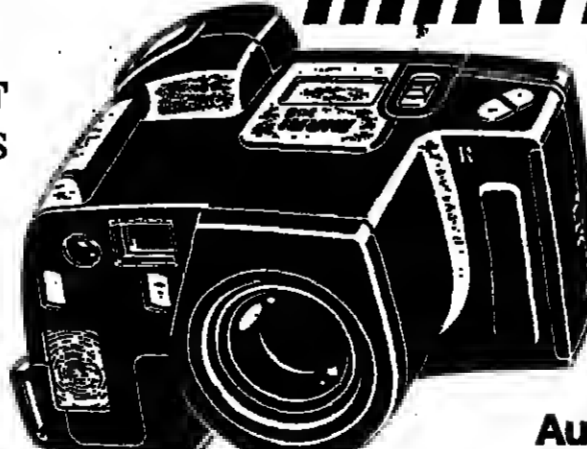


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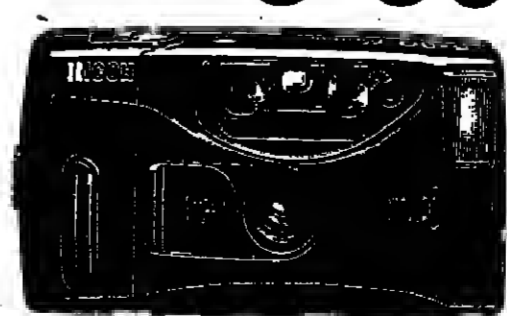


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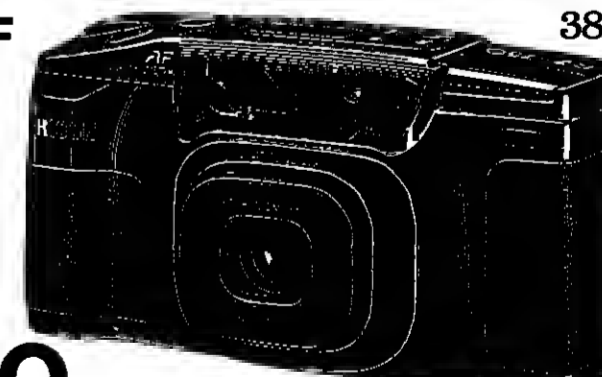
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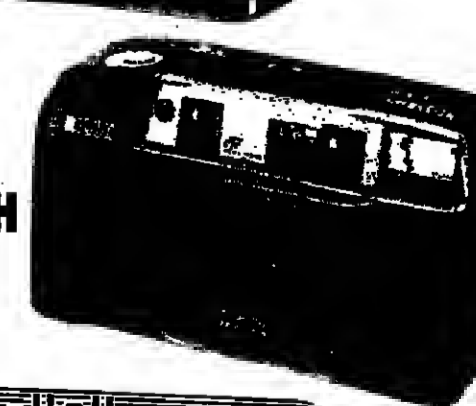


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INTERNATIONAL

Ethnic killing, torture in Niger

LONDON, June 2. (AP): Amnesty International said yesterday that more than 400 members of a nomadic ethnic group have been arrested since April in Niger, and that at least 60 of them have been killed.

Many of the ethnic Tuaregs arrested and jailed may have been tortured, said Amnesty International in a statement sent to news organisations in London. The human rights group said that those still in detention are prisoners of conscience, arrested because of their ethnic origins.

The Tuaregs are members of a Berber group of nomadic herders who for centuries have travelled the Sahara desert in what is now Algeria, Mali, Niger and Libya. Tuaregs were once known as the blue-veiled warriors of the desert, renowned for their courage and independence.

Many have settled in camps around the sub-Saharan village of Agadez, where at least 30 Tuaregs were arrested April 11. Amnesty International said. They reportedly were moved to government detention centres in the villages of Tillabery or Dirkou, and some reportedly were tortured, Amnesty International said.

An additional 380 Tuaregs were arrested later and detained in Taboua army barracks where torture is believed to occur routinely, the statement said. No other details of the arrests were provided by the group.

On May 7, the government announced that a band of Tuaregs repatriated from Libya attacked a police headquarters in the oasis of Tchintabaraden in a bid to seize arms for a guerilla campaign.

The rebels seized six weapons before security forces put down the assault 435 miles (700 kms) northeast of Niamey, Niger's President Gen. Ali Saibou said at the time.

The rebels claimed membership in the Revolutionary Movement for the Liberation of Niger, an organisation the government said was backed by Libya.

Relations between Niger and Libya have sometimes been strained, most recently in the mid 1980s when Niger allowed the United States to build a secret airstrip in the northeast corner of the country near the Libyan border.

Amnesty International, quoting the government of Niger, said that 31 people were killed in the attack, including civilians and troops. Three Tuaregs were arrested. The human rights group said it had received no reply to inquiries about the status of the detainees.

Doe pledges to quit

MONROVIA, June 2. (AP): President Samuel Doe tried to appease advancing rebels yesterday by promising not to seek re-election, and he pleaded with the United States and other allies to help end the revolt.

A US based spokesman for the rebels said they had dropped their demand that Doe surrender and stand trial for alleged corruption and atrocities. The spokesman, Tom Woeviyu, said if Doe left Liberia, the insurgents would be willing to work with the existing regime to set up an interim government.

Woeviyu said his comments were approved by Charles Taylor, leader of the rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia that was marching toward Monrovia.

Doe told reporters yesterday: "I wish to announce here today my firm decision to stand for the 1991 general elections."

The main column of the 6-month-old rebel incursion has reached within 40 kms (25 miles) of the capital, Monrovia, with rebel troops encamped near the international airport.

The airport remains open. A British Airways flight arrived late Friday, but an earlier KLM flight had difficulties finding ground crew to service the plane, airport officials said.

Airport staff have not been showing up for work, though the KLM flight eventually departed without incident after a several-hour delay, the officials said.

This capital city is already feeling the effects of the rebel incursion — rice, a staple, is in short supply, many market shelves are empty. There are frequent power outages and there has been no running water for two days.

Rumours persist in this city of about 500,000 residents that the water supply has been poisoned by the rebels but water company officials denied this Friday, say-



Soldiers practise martial arts using leather belts near Tiananmen Square June 2. (Reuters wirephoto)

China proclaims its policies successful

First anniversary of crackdown

BEIJING, June 2. (UPI): The Chinese government, assessing the first anniversary of the crackdown on a student-led democracy movement, proclaimed its policies a success today and claimed the past year in China reflected the "people's will".

The review of the year since the June 3-4, 1989, crackdown, whose anniversary falls Sunday and Monday, was carried in summary form by the official Xinhua News Agency and will be published Monday in the weekly magazine Beijing Review.

The article — the government's first lengthy statement on the

anniversary — did not detail the suppression of the six weeks of demonstrations, in which the Chinese Army killed hundreds when they fired on protesters in Beijing, or the nationwide repression since.

It appeared instead to reflect the Chinese leadership's concern over averting any anniversary-linked spark that might renew unrest, declaring a victory for political and economic policies widely unpopular in much of Chinese society.

Describing the student-led movement as "upheaval and finally rebellion," the Beijing Review said that after the unrest was quelled, the

Message to China

'Free demonstrators'

WASHINGTON, June 2. (AP): Amnesty International says 150 members of the US Congress will urge Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng to free thousands of jailed demonstrators on the first anniversary of China's anti-democracy crackdown.

The private human rights organisation said yesterday it proposed and helped draft the message to be sent next Monday to Li Peng.

The date is the one-year anniversary of a Chinese military suppression of the democracy movement that was focused on Tiananmen Square in Beijing.

Hundreds and possibly thousands of Chinese were reported killed in the crackdown.

The signers include Senate Majority leader George Mitchell and Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Clairborne Pell, both Democrats, and the committee's ranking Republican Jesse Helms, said Amnesty International.



Hau takes office

Taiwan Premier Hau Pei-tsun meets the press June 1 after formally taking office. Hau's appointment caused great controversy because his whole career was spent in the military where he rose to four-star general and was the country's longest-serving military chief of staff. (Reuters wirephoto)

Self-immolator was mentally ill

BEIJING, June 2. (UPI): A man who set himself on fire outside the US consulate in Shanghai was identified by Chinese officials today as a mentally ill jobless worker who had been waiting in line for an American visa, US officials said.

US embassy spokesman Sheridan Bell said in Beijing the Shanghai consulate was advised of the burned man's status by a Shanghai foreign affairs bureau official who identified himself as Mr. Zhu.

The man, Lu Minbao, 32, was admitted in serious condition to Ruijiao hospital for treatment of extensive burns suffered last morning. Bell quoted the Chinese official as saying:

"The man was in the visa line outside the US consulate gate when he doused himself with gasoline and set himself ablaze before nearly 100 stunned onlookers, officials said."

Chinese capital "soon returned to normal and the political situation tended to stabilise."

"The rapidly achieved stable situation was the result of the people's will to see stability in China," the article said.

After the crackdown, hard-line Communist Party leaders swung the government sharply toward imposing tighter control over society. Mandatory political indoctrination, added restrictions on students and an economic clampdown have been instituted in the past year.

The article credited intensified ideological education for what it called a "consensus on many important issues" and said the government had done "several big things" to address the grievances of last year's protesters, such as fighting official corruption.

"These several big things done by the party and government have been widely noted and acclaimed by the people," the article said. "This enhanced the party and government prestige among the people."

Chinese interviewed in recent weeks, however, have almost universally scoffed at the ideological campaigns as show-work and ineffective, and dismissed as cosmetic the anti-corruption drive.

The article was less glowing about the government's continued economic austerity and retrenchment programme but declared "initial success" and said the policy had begun to yield results, such as cutting what had been record inflation.

The Beijing Review acknowledged the retrenchment had slowed industrial growth by tightening credit and choking the market but said the problems in the programme would be "resolved in the future."

In fact, the imposed economic downturn has forced many factory shutdowns, raised unemployment and forced the government in recent months to ease the austerity and inject funds into the economy.

The article blamed the cause of last year's unrest on internal political struggles, saying that while the student movement rose and subsided, the turmoil "steadily intensified" and that the "problem arose mainly within the Chinese Communist Party."

Exiles press for reform

Chinese dissidents

PARIS, June 2. (AP): Half a world away from home, where gunfire and bloodshed shocked the world a year ago, a small group of Chinese exiles works to reform the political system that forced them to flee.

The world headquarters for the Federation for a Democratic China is a small office in a quiet, picturesque Paris neighbourhood. From here the federation tries to maintain pressure on the communist regime in Beijing urging governments to take political measures publishing materials on human rights, keeping track of friends and ex-colleagues in Chinese jails.

Its priority is to nudge the Communist Party toward peaceful political reform, says Wan Runnan, the federation's secretary-general.

"The Communist Party cannot carry out necessary reform from within," Wan says. "We must put pressure on the party from the outside to adopt democracy, including from foreign governments."

The federation does not seek to overthrow the party, Wan stresses. "But what people want is economic and social stability, without corruption in the party, the best way to avoid this is a multiparty system," he says.

A year ago Wan Runnan was a rare breed — a successful, elite businessman who headed Stone Group Co., China's largest privately funded company. But Wan lent his support, as well as workers and equipment, to the student-led movement for democratic reforms in Beijing last spring.

The Chinese Army's violent June 4 suppression of the unarmed protesters left hundreds dead, possibly thousands.

Six days later, while Wan was visiting a computer exhibition in Hong Kong, Chinese authorities issued an arrest warrant for him and six other intellectuals, accusing them of inciting the "counter-revolutionary turmoil." Wan never returned to China.

Today he leads a bumble life in France, directing the federation's protests against human rights violations and organising discussions and conferences on the massacre.

The federation's chairman is



A young woman is carried out of Tiananmen Square June 4, 1989, after the military advanced with troops and tanks killing hundreds of demonstrators. (Reuters wirephoto)

Yan Jiaqi, a former aide to ousted Communist Party chief Zhao Ziyang.

It is staffed by a dozen Chinese and has 2,000 dues-paying members in its branches around the world. Fees are nominal, only some \$10 US a year in France.

Yan's often stiff demeanour has helped shift the dissident spotlight to his deputy chairman Wu'er Kaixi, the flamboyant, articulate ex-student leader who relishes media attention and has a penchant for fainting at public gatherings.

Yan and Wu'er frequently travel, leaving Wan in charge in Paris.

But Wan recently visited Czechoslovakia, East Germany and Poland.

"The events in China of last spring had two strong effects on East Europe," he says. "People saw the widespread participation of ordinary citizens, and governments witnessed the suppression which could only make them more sensitive to their own problems."

The federation's budget is murky, though there is a "planned finance," says Wang Hao, secretary for finance. It costs about 210,000 francs (\$38,000) a month to run the bureau, including rent and staff salaries, Wang says.

The federation in its infancy

was beset by its share of controversy. There have been allegations of financial mismanagement and overzealous spending by Wu'er, and discord among its leaders.

Exiled journalist Lin Binyan said in an interview in New York last week that he had been asked to take over the federation from Yan in September, but that he refused, noting the prickly relations among its leadership.

The federation, while it boasts prominent names, is not the sole voice of dissent. The China Alliance for Democracy, established in New York, and the Independent Federation of Chinese Students and Scholars in Washington, D.C. The three were told to consolidate their offices if they wished for continued support from the US government, according to Chinese sources in the United States.

The entire movement in exile was given a big boost in April when "Chai Ling, the impassioned student activist who headed the protest movement in its final days last June, surfaced with her husband in Paris in April.

Federation members insist gradual reform will come to China: "If China doesn't adopt democracy, then the country has no hope," says Zhang Lun, an aide to federation chairman Yan.

Mandela feels 'top of world'

Surgery successful

JOHANNESBURG, June 2. (AP): African National Congress leader Nelson Mandela, hospitalised for the removal of a benign cyst, said today he felt fine, and prepared for a six-week tour of Europe, the United States and Africa.

Mandela, looking tired after seven days at a Johannesburg's Park Lane clinic, held a brief news conference with his surgeon to discuss the removal of a non-malignant cyst related to his gall bladder.

Dr Gus Gecceler said, "there is no question that the cyst is anything but inflammatory."

He said Mandela, 71, had experienced no adverse effects from the operation.

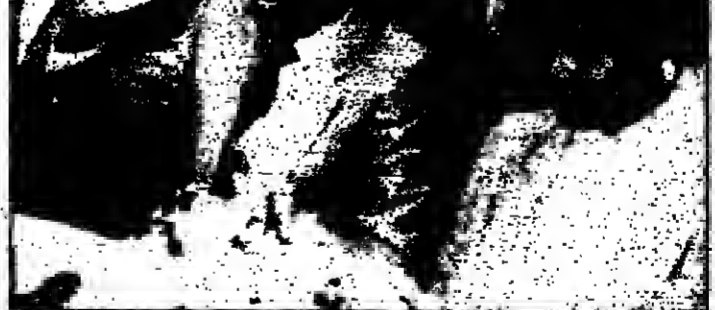
"He had no problems before or after the operation," said Gecceler, who has attended Mandela for several years.

Routine medical checks to Mandela's heart, lungs and abdomen were "perfectly normal," he said.

"He is a very fit young man for his age," Gecceler said. Mandela said he felt "on top of the world." He was expected to leave the clinic this weekend.

He begins his tour of African, European and American nations on Monday. The trip includes stops in the United States, Britain, France, Germany, Canada, Ireland, Italy, Botswana, Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya and Mozambique.

Mandela said he would use the trip to thank the international community for helping secure his release in February after 27 years in prison for sabotage and plotting to overthrow the government. His release came under political reforms implemented by President F.W. de Klerk.



Nelson Mandela (center) speaks to reporters June 2 after leaving Johannesburg hospital. At right is wife Winnie Mandela. (Reuters wirephoto)

Sihanouk in Tokyo, attacks Vietnam

TOKYO, June 2. (Reuters): Exiled Cambodian monarch Norodom Sihanouk bitterly attacked Vietnam today and said its colonisation of his country would not be solved by the peace accord he plans to sign here next week.

In a statement issued after his arrival in Tokyo, he said there were 40,000 Vietnamese soldiers serving in Cambodia; plus more than one million settlers from Vietnam which had changed his country's border to its advantage.

He is due to hold talks on Monday and Tuesday with Hun Sen, prime minister of the Vietnamese-backed government in Phnom Penh, intended to produce a ceasefire agreement in their country's 11-year internal conflict.

The talks, at a former imperial palace, will also include the leaders of the two other factions in Sihanouk's uneasy guerrilla coalition, the Khmer Rouge's Khieu Samphan and Son Sann of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front.

He is due to have talks and a dinner with Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu this evening. Diplomats said there was a long way to go before the country knew real peace.

Sihanouk's statement said that the issue of Vietnamese occupation would not be resolved by the peace accord he plans to sign with Hun Sen and which envisages an international control mechanism to help achieve a ceasefire.

Sihanouk said today he planned to sign a peace accord with the Vietnamese-backed Cambodian government during the latest round of peace talks in Tokyo.

SA scraps separate amenities act: first of four remaining apartheid pillars to fall

JOHANNESBURG, June 2. (Reuters): One of South Africa's four remaining pillars of apartheid is crumbling, with the government determined to scrap a law segregating public amenities such as restaurants, swimming pools, parks and libraries.

Planning Minister Hernus Kriel proposed a bill yesterday to end formal race segregation in these and other facilities from October 15.

The bill will go before Parliament — itself still segregated — and is expected to be passed by the white, Indian and coloured (mixed-race) chambers within three weeks.

Black groups said repeal of the 1953 separate amenities act would be a step in the right direction, but called for a speedy end to the other three major laws which underpin the apartheid system.

These are the population registration act, branding South Africans by race group from birth; the group areas act which zones towns by skin colour; and the lands act which reserves 83 per cent of the

country for white ownership.

Repeal of the separate amenities act will have little effect in the cities, where councils have for years turned a blind eye to blacks using facilities sign-posted for whites only.

But trouble is expected in rural areas, particularly in ultra-conservative towns where white right-wingers are fighting a rear-guard action against President F.W. de Klerk's programme to abolish apartheid.

Extremist groups have vowed to take up

arms to defend white privilege. The pro-apartheid Conservative Party attracted tens of thousands of supporters to an anti-reform rally last weekend.

"The government is looking for trouble," a conservative spokesman said.

Unidentified gunmen with automatic rifles and handguns attacked the homes of community activists in a black township near Johannesburg early yesterday, killing three people, including a 10-month-old baby, police and township sources said.

Imelda improves but too ill to resume trial

NEW YORK, June 2, (AP): Imelda Marcos remained hospitalized last night for a stomach ailment that had her coughing blood in court, and her attorney said the former Philippine first lady was too ill to resume her trial on schedule.

Also yesterday, the judge granted a request by CBS, a US television network, to quash a subpoena to compel journalist Diane Sawyer to testify about a 1986 interview with Mrs Marcos.

Officials at New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Centre said Mrs Marcos could be out of the hospital by Sunday, but lawyer John Tighe said there was "no way" she could be ready for a scheduled Tuesday court session.

Mrs Marcos was visited at the hospital yesterday

by her lawyer, Gerry Spence, her two sisters and her son, Ferdinand Jr., said family spokesman Roger Peyuan. She rested well overnight and was feeling better, Peyuan said.

"Mrs Marcos' condition is much improved and she is stabilized," the hospital said in a statement.

Mrs Marcos was admitted to the hospital Thursday after she collapsed and coughed up blood during her federal racketeering trial.

Doctors diagnosed her illness as erosive gastritis, an inflammation of the stomach caused by excessive acid. They said the ailment could have been caused by stress, but did not appear related to a high blood pressure condition for which she has been treated during the trial that began March 20.

Mrs Marcos, 60, is accused of having helped her husband, the late President Ferdinand Marcos, steal \$220 million from their nation's treasury, using the money for their own purposes.

Her co-defendant, Adnan Khashoggi, is charged with having faked documents to show that he, not the Marcoses, owned the properties before the Marcoses' assets were frozen by a US court order.

The government had sought to testimony from Ms Sawyer to verify the authenticity of an interview she conducted of Mrs Marcos on CBS-TV's "60 Minutes."

But US District Judge John F. Keenan ruled that the public's interest in a "vigorous, aggressive and independent" media outweighed the necessity of the

testimony to the prosecution's case.

The judge made his decision in a written opinion, although he told lawyers about his intention Thursday.

In the interview, Mrs Marcos said her signature on a Swiss bank record found in the presidential palace in Manila was a forgery.

Prosecutors sought to show that Mrs Marcos was lying because handwriting on the document, which was presented as evidence at the trial, had been positively identified as hers. They also said the interview would counter defence arguments that Mrs Marcos had no involvement in financial dealings.

Scribe detained in Kashmir

Govt denies arresting correspondent to BBC, Reuters, Time, Telegraph

SRINAGAR, June 2, (AP): An Indian journalist was taken to an undisclosed location today by men wearing Indian army uniforms, but the government denied the military was holding him and said it suspected "foul play."

Yusuf Jameel, who was covering the separatist movement in Kashmir for Western news organizations, was taken away at 7.30 a.m. (0200 GMT) Saturday from his Srinagar home in Pratap Bagh district, his manservant Hakim Din said.

Hakim said he woke up Jameel after answering the doorbell rung by two men wearing army uniforms, demanding to meet the reporter. Jameel met them at the door and after a

brief conversation returned to his bedroom to get dressed, Din said.

Jameel's photographer, Merajuddin, who also lives in the house, said Jameel, while getting dressed told him: "I am being arrested by the army. Take care of yourself."

The government, however, denied Jameel was arrested or taken away by "any of the security forces or the army for helping any investigation."

A state government spokesman, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said the security forces are "nowhere involved in this alleged disappearance."



Memorandum

Thousands of Kashmiri Muslims gathered in front of the United Nations Observers office in Srinagar on May 31. They gave a memorandum demanding implementation of a Security Council resolution for a plebiscite in the Kashmir valley. (Reuters wirephoto)

Session's secret India trip

NEW DELHI, June 2, (Kuna):

Director of the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) William Sessions has paid a secret visit to the Kashmir valley and trouble-torn Punjab some time ago to make spot survey of the situation there according to a press report today.

Sessions has visited India in the first week of May and secretly flew to the Kashmir valley to assess the extent of militant activities there. He later visited Punjab, the Hindustan Times daily said.

It added the FBI chief came to India with the consent of the Indian government and was allowed to travel to two sensitive states — Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. The mission of Sessions was apparently aimed at studying the situation before the Washington meeting of the two superpowers, currently going on there, the paper indicated.

President George Bush of the United States and Mikhail Gorbachev of the Soviet Union were expected to discuss the Kashmir issue during the summit.

The FBI chief left with Robert Gates, special envoy of President Bush, who came here to persuade India and Pakistan to settle their problem through negotiations. Gates also went to Pakistan, where he met Pakistani President Ghulam Ishaq Khan to ascertain his view on the Kashmir issue.

Delhi statehood bill

Debate put off next session

By Thomas Abraham
Arab Times correspondent

NEW DELHI, June 2: On the last day of the marathon budget session of Parliament, the government introduced the much-awaited constitution amendment bill seeking to confer statehood on Delhi, now a union territory.

But on the insistence of the opposition led by the Congress, the consideration of the bill was put off till the monsoon session, likely to be convened by

Minister of State for Home Affairs Subodh Kant Sahay told the Lok Sabha that the proposal was to have an 84-member legislative assembly for Delhi as well as seven Lok Sabha and three Rajya Sabha seats. Once the bill is passed, the government will have to ask the election commission to delimit constituencies and also bring forward supporting legislation.

If the bill is passed by Parliament, the new state will become the 26th in India and be called the "capital state of Delhi." Since Delhi is also the capital of India, it has been proposed that the legislative assembly shall not have powers to make laws regarding public order and police, subjects which will remain with the centre.

The governor of the new proposed state will have special responsibilities with respect to law and order. Matters relating to provision of municipal services needed by the central government, the Delhi Urban Arts Commission and the preparation of the master-plan of Delhi shall be subject to the approval of the governor.

August. While the Congress expressed its inability to co-operate with the government in pushing the bills through unless it agreed to table all the papers relating to the Bofors gun deal. The BJP and the left parties also wanted the consideration deferred on the ground that the bill was carelessly drafted and failed to meet the aspirations of the people.

The BJP has been campaigning for full statehood for Delhi for a long time and the ruling National Front had promised it in its election manifesto.

No decision on replacement

Punjab gov. resigns

NEW DELHI, June 2, (AP): The top administrator of strife-torn Punjab state resigned yesterday after less than six months in office, news reports said.

Governor Nirmal Kumar Mukarji submitted his resignation to President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, United News of India news agency reported.

Mukarji, who took office on Dec 8 last year, did not give any reason for the resignation, the news agency said. However, newspapers have been saying for some days change was imminent because Mukarji has been largely ineffectual in controlling the Sikh insurgency sweeping the state.

The Statesman newspaper reported yesterday that Mukarji would be replaced by P.K. Kaul, a former top-ranking bureaucrat who has also served as India's ambassador to the United States.

The union territory is at present administered through an administrator designated as the lieutenant governor. It had a metropolitan council, which functioned as an advisory body on important matters relating to administration.

In December, 1987, a committee was appointed to go into the various issues involved and to recommend inter alia the streamlining of the administrative set-up. The committee submitted its report in December, 1989.

Gunmen kill two

(Continued from Page 1)

Muslim refugees from India, who dominate Karachi and Hyderabad.

The escalating violence forced authorities to impose tough security measures, including indefinite curfews and checkpoints manned by heavily-armed soldiers.

Today Karachi showed signs of normalcy. Shops and offices opened and traffic clogged the street during a curfew break free of the relentless shootings that rang through Pakistan's largest city for the past week and left at least 169 people dead, officials said.

Meanwhile, the army started to clamp down. It said loudspeakers at the neighbourhood mosques, often the main source of inciting violence, could only be used to call worshippers to prayer. It also issued shoot-to-kill orders for anyone caught looting or setting fire to property.

As violence escalated and pressure mounted for action, Benazir called out the army to help local security forces restore law and order to the violence-ravaged province.

Soldiers swept across Sind yesterday and arrested more than 1,000 people suspected of ordering the car-pool officials said.

But the violence once largely to the cities spread to the interior, including Larkana, the prime minister's home town about 350 kms (200 miles) north of Karachi.

Filipino troops in show of force

ANGELES, Philippines, June 2, (AP): Hundreds of Filipino troops backed by armoured vehicles staged a show of force against communist rebels today after US officials barred American troops from leaving nearby Clark Air Base except on essential business.

About 500 soldiers and police motored through the streets brandishing M-16 rifles and carrying banners denouncing the New People's Army. The motorcade passed in front of Clark Air Base and through rebel-infested neighbourhoods.

Police Lt. Col. Julius Yarcia announced formation of neighbourhood vigilante groups to help fight the rebels, who have operated in this city 50 miles (80 kms) north of Manila for decades.

"We just want to convince the people that we are willing to fight and that we have the manpower and the firepower to fight the enemy," Yarcia told reporters.

Yesterday, US officials announced renewed restrictions on the 20,300 troops, Defense Department civilians and military dependents at Clark, one of six US bases in the Philippines. Officials cited an undisclosed security threat in the area, where communist rebels killed two US airmen last month.

Lt. Col. Ron Rand, a US military spokesman, said security patrols around the sprawling base had been doubled to protect American lives.

Philippine intelligence sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said rebel troop movements yesterday prompted the US decision to restrict movement of US personnel.

Yarcia said that in addition to the civilian vigilantes, two companies of troops from the elite Philippine Constabulary Regional Special Action Force would be sent to Angeles to augment the three battalions already stationed in the city.

Communist guerrillas have fought for 21 years to establish a Marxist state and have pledged to continue attacking Americans until all US troops leave the Philippines.

Eight Americans have died in politically motivated violence in the Philippines since April 1989.

Meanwhile, Stars and Stripes, the unofficial newspaper of the US military, reported yesterday that dependents no longer will be allowed to accompany troops to the Philippines unless housing for them exists on the bases.

It said about half the personnel at Clark live off post and the waiting list for base housing ranges from six months to nearly three years, depending on rank.

Last month, the US government authorised "imminent danger pay" for military and State Department employees in the Philippines.

The State Department also warned all Americans to be on guard against terrorism in this former American colony, especially when talks on the bases resume, probably by July.

The lease on the six bases expires in Sept 1991 and opposition to them has been growing.

Yesterday, Maj. Gen. Cesar Nazareno, chief of the Philippine Constabulary, said he ordered stepped up security patrols around the bases because of the communist threat.

Dependents already stationed here who want to return to the United States will be allowed to do so at government expense, the Stars and Stripes newspaper said.



A man (right) cries for his elder brother after recognising the dead-body as two social-workers carrying him away from the site at a Karachi hospital May 31. (Reuters wirephoto)

Court orders SSP's arrest

Lanka scribe's killing

COLOMBO, June 2, (AP): A court yesterday ordered the arrest of a senior policeman in connection with the abduction and killing of a journalist working for a foreign news organisation.

Moratuwa district magistrate Rohini Walagama asked police investigators to bring senior superintendent of police Ronnie Gunasinghe to court on June 11 to join an identification lineup.

Richard de Zoysa, a correspondent for the Rome-based Interpress Service, was kidnapped Feb 18 from his home in a Colombo suburb by six armed men who came in a jeep similar to those used by police.

The body of 33-year-old journalist, with a gunshot wound in the neck, was found two days later on a beach at Moratuwa, 16 kms (10 miles) south of Colombo.

Yesterday's court order was made after De Zoysa's mother, Manorami Saravanamuttu, gave an affidavit to the court claiming Gunasinghe was one of the six men who had kidnapped her son.

"I have succeeded personally

in identifying SSP Ronnie Gunasinghe," said the affidavit submitted by Mrs Saravanamuttu's counsel, Batty Weerakoon.

"I have refrained from divulging any information to the police because of concern about my own safety and because I have no faith in the investigation the police claim they are conducting," the statement said.

Mrs Saravanamuttu and Weerakoon told the magistrate they both had received a number of anonymous death threats.

The government has denied that either the police or the military was involved in De Zoysa's abduction or killing. It has not identified any suspects.

De Zoysa, a Sri Lankan citizen, was the first journalist working for a foreign news organisation to be killed in Sri Lanka. He had written about the killings and human rights situation in Sri Lanka.

The government blamed Sinhalese extremists of the People's Liberation Front for the killing of three employees of the state-owned television station last year.

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Diplomatic ties between S. Korea, Soviet Union this year

SEOUL, June 2, (UPI): South Korea and the Soviet Union will enter into full diplomatic relations this year paving the way for President Roh Tae-woo to visit Moscow before the year end, a top member of the government party said today.

Roh, meanwhile, prepared to depart Sunday for San Francisco for a historic meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev after the Soviet leader finishes his summit meeting with President Bush in

Washington.

The California meeting will be the first between leaders of South Korea and the Soviet Union.

Kim Young-Sam, No. 2 leader of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, told reporters he expects Moscow and Seoul to establish full diplomatic ties between June and the end of September.

"President Roh will be visiting the Soviet Union before long and President

Gorbachev's Seoul visit is also a possibility," Kim said. He said the Soviet leader may visit South Korea by early next year.

The Donb-A Ilbo, one of the most influential dailies in Korea, said in a front-page story that Roh will visit Moscow in September immediately after diplomatic relations have been established between the two countries.

The paper, quoting an unnamed highly

placed government official, said the Seoul government has recently been informed by a close aide to Gorbachev that the Soviet leader will include South Korea on his itinerary when he visits Japan in May next year.

Roh is scheduled to get together with Gorbachev in San Francisco Monday afternoon in an unprecedented meeting. South Korea and the Soviet Union have had no formal relations.

INTERNATIONAL

NEWS IN BRIEF

America

No pro-choice Catholic: The Bishop of Peoria, Illinois, said Friday that Roman Catholics who support a woman's right to have an abortion should not take communion and he asked priests in his diocese to read his statement to church members during weekend services.

In a strongly worded message and his first pastoral letter, Bishop John Myers said there is no such thing as a "pro-choice" Catholic because the Catholic faith condemns the practice. The Catholic faith teaches that receiving a communion host after it has been blessed by a priest is the same thing as receiving the body of Jesus Christ.

"For such a person to express communion with Christ and his church by the reception of the sacrament... is objectively dishonest," Myers said. (UPI).

Doing time in the saddle: The only obstacle to freedom at this prison is a split rail fence and a row of cottonwood trees. And the inmates do their time in the saddle—or trying to stay in the saddle—on wild horses.

Gary Starbuck, superintendent of the Wyoming Honor Farm, said the 2-year-old horse-breaking programme is an attempt to mold inmates into productive citizens.

"Some say they've got it too easy. It's a country club. They want to see them do hard time," Starbuck said as he kept an eye on the bronco-busting recently at the sprawling tree-studded corrections ranch. (AP)

US supports Palau: The US government said Friday it continues to support the call by the people of Palau for economic self-sufficiency and will continue to fulfill its role as trustee.

Ambassador M. James Wilkinson, US representative to the trusteeship council, told the panel Friday that his government would help the people of Palau help themselves—until they ratify a compact of free association. (AP)

Europe

Mitsotakis to visit US: A recent sharp improvement in US-Greek relations will take a further step forward when Prime Minister Constantine Mitsotakis meets President George Bush in Washington next week, the first such talks in 25 years.

Mitsotakis, who in April formed the first conservative government since 1981, has made rebuilding friendly ties with Washington a cornerstone of his foreign policy.

"We look forward to positive results in foreign policy from our trip," Mitsotakis, 71, told reporters, adding that he hoped for greater US investment and a substantial rise in tourism. (Reuters)

Swedes debate refugee issue: Sweden's Parliament Friday condemned a recent upsurge of violence against refugees, but adopted tighter controls for refugees seeking asylum.

In the latest incidents, unknown assailants threw stones and fire bombs at two refugee transit points outside of Stockholm early Friday. No one was injured.

Police also found two gas canisters that aimed to explode outside another refugee centre 270 kilometers west of the capital, bringing to 12 the number of attacks in the last week. Some 15 barracks under construction for refugees have burned to the ground. (AP)

Cassiga 'on his way out': Italian President Francesco Cossiga has said that he will not run for president after the end of his term in 1992.

Speaking to reporters last night during the inaugural party of an exhibition of a renowned Italian artist in Venice, Cossiga added: "Take photos of these eternal beautiful paintings and not a picture on his way out." (Kuna)

Anti-cholesterol cereal: Finnish researchers say they have developed an oat-bran concentrate that markedly lowers blood cholesterol, which doctors call a factor in heart trouble.

Many doctors advise oatmeal products to lower cholesterol, but recent studies throw doubt on such claims, finding that very large amounts must be eaten to have any real effect because of the comparatively low amount of beta-glucan, the active ingredient. (Reuters)



120 aftershocks

More than 120 aftershocks have been felt in Romania since a powerful earthquake that killed 14 people rumbled across five countries, officials said Friday.

The Romanian government, trying to cope with its third major earthquake in 13 years, said in a communique Friday it would give top priority to repairs to buildings damaged in Wednesday's quake and Thursday's major aftershock.

The Ministry of National Economy said it had no estimate yet of the damage from the quake and the more than 120 aftershocks recorded by late Friday.

Nine people were killed in Romania, one in Bulgaria and four in the Soviet Union. About 1,000 others also were injured.

The northern Bulgarian city of Silistra on Thursday appealed for aid, saying it urgently needed glass, cement, bricks and tiles to repair damaged homes, schools and the lone hospital, the Bulgarian news agency BTA reported.

Above a nurse at Bucharest's emergency hospital, May 31, treats a man injured in Friday's quake. (Reuters wirephoto)



Remove all emblems

Workers dismantle the East German state emblem from the inside of East German Parliament in East Germany on May 31, the day Parliament decided to remove all state emblems from public buildings. (Reuters wirephoto)

Al-Ahram Asia edition

SINGAPORE, June 2. (Kuna): Al-Ahram, the influential Egyptian newspaper, will soon print an Asian edition here for distribution in the Asia-Pacific region.

Besides carrying business and financial news about the Asia-Pacific area, it will also keep Arabs in this region informed of developments in the Middle East.

The 36-page broadsheet, published in Cairo, will be transmitted here via satellite for printing.

Al-Ahram, which has a world-wide circulation of two million, will join the ranks of several other foreign newspapers which print their regional editions here via satellite.

These include the Asian Wall Street Journal, International Herald Tribune, Sunday Express and USA Today.

The decision to print Al-Ahram here followed a meeting between the newspaper's executives, the Arab business centre of the Singapore manufacturers' association and a printing company here last week.

Mohammed Zaher, the Arab business centre's consultant and managing director, said the centre has been appointed sole agent for the newspaper's printing and distribution here.

Africa

France to pull out some troops: France is expected on Saturday to pull out some of the troop reinforcements it sent to Gabon's oil capital Port Gendil at the height of anti-government riots, a French Army spokesman said.

He said 140 men would return to their base in Bangui, capital of neighbouring Central African Republic, but gave no further details. (Reuters)

Students rampage, 1 killed: A university student was killed when he and rampaging colleagues clashed with guards at a dance hall in central Rwanda, state radio reported Friday.

Rwanda radio gave no reasons for the rampage by University of Butare students Thursday night. However, the broadcast said President Juvenal Habyarimana had ordered local leaders and university authorities to solve the students' problems. (AP)

US aid to Unita blasted: The Marxist government, in a tough worded polemic statement Friday blasted the United States for stepping up military aid to Jonas Savimbi's Unita rebels via Zaire.

The statement, loaded with Marxist rhetoric, also accused Unita—the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola—of trying to "confuse less well-informed sectors of the population" by promoting political pluralism, while simultaneously stepping up guerrilla attacks against civilians.

It added increased US aid to the rebels forced "the government to exercise its legitimate sovereign right to defend its population against the constant introduction of material and troops from the Republic of Zaire." (AP)

Latin America

Rain forest project: The Guyanese government said it will set aside 900,000 acres (364,230 hectares) of rain forest for study.

The project will be launched June 5, designated World Environment Day by the World Conservation Union, and is a joint effort with the British Commonwealth.

Guyana offered for study the virtually untouched land in the central Potaro district at last year's Commonwealth heads of government conference in Malaysia. (AP)

Mexico to host Environment Day: One of the world's most polluted cities is preparing to host a United Nations event designed to warn of the dangers of environmental degradation, organisers said on Friday.

Mexico City is the headquarters for World Environment Day on Tuesday, an attempt to raise environmental awareness that will be marked by the release of a UN report on children and the environment.

The environment is being damaged everywhere. People have got to understand that there is nowhere to run," said E. Daniel Kinnear, a UN co-ordinator for the event. (Reuters)

Give Nobel prize to Baltics: Walesa

Yeltsin promises ties with Lithuania

WARSAW, Poland, June 2. (AP): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa suggested yesterday that the 1990 Nobel peace prize be awarded to the people of the Baltic republics for their peaceful drive toward independence from the Soviet Union.

Walesa, the recipient of the 1983 Nobel peace prize for his role in creating the independent Solidarity Trade Union three years earlier, made the proposal in a letter to the Norwegian Nobel Committee, Poland's official PAP news agency said.

"Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia are the countries which march on the defence gradually March 30, while Latvia declared its independence May 4, although the move calls for secession after an underdetermined transition period.

The Kremlin has imposed an economic embargo on oil, natural gas and other raw materials on Lithuania to try to force it to rescind legislation that fosters independence.

Walesa as well as the Polish government and legislature have expressed support for the fight of the Baltic republics to self-determination, but have not officially recognised their new democratically elected governments.

Walesa received the prize for his "determination to solve his country's problems through negotiation and cooperation without resorting to violence," the committee said.

Solidarity, the first legal independent trade union in the Soviet bloc, was founded in August 1980. An estimated 10 million Poles joined the union that existed legally for 16 months until the declaration of martial law in December 1981.

Walesa was determined to continue the union which developed a wide range of underground activities during the years that it was banned.

Two waves of strikes in 1988 persuaded the communist authorities to hold talks with the Solidarity-led opposition.

The communists' inability to form a government following Solidarity's sweeping success in the June elections paved the way for the formation of a Solidarity-led government three months later, reversing four decades of communist rule.

Meanwhile, in Moscow, Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian federation, promised his Lithuanian counterpart yesterday that he would foster close ties with the secessionist Baltic region, Lithuanian sources said.

Yeltsin's offer openly defied Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, who ordered a partial economic blockade against Lithuania in an effort to force it to back off its March independence declaration.

If Russia were to resume supplying Lithuania with natural gas, oil and other raw materials, it would mean the virtual end of the Kremlin's sanctions—with-out Gorbachev's consent.

Yeltsin has never explicitly said Russia would definitely provide raw materials to Lithuania. But Lithuanian officials have always discussed that when talking about their hopes of striking deals with Russia.

Meanwhile, the legislature of Soviet Moldavia on Thursday recognised Lithuania's independence, making it the first Soviet Republic outside the Baltics to do so, the Tass news agency reported.

The action in the southwestern republic was taken while Gorbachev was out of the country at a Soviet-US summit in Washington and represents a direct challenge to the Soviet leader's efforts to isolate Lithuania.

Yeltsin met Lithuanian President Vytautas Landsbergis in Moscow for "a very friendly talk with full mutual understanding," said Natasha Boganova, secretary of the Lithuanian representation.

"Yeltsin is prepared, as soon as Russia gets its sovereignty, to co-operate fully with the Baltic republics, and Lithuania first of all," she said.

Lithuania, struggling to circumvent the blockade, has been seeking direct ties with newly elected radical leaders in various parts of the country.

Landsbergis met Friday with delegates from Moscow, Leningrad and other Russian cities where radicals have taken over the administrations, the Lithuanian parliament's information service said.

road to independence, all alone. With the passive attitude of the world, they manifest in a very bold way, their attachment to the ideas of freedom and self-determination of nations, ideas embodied in the constitutions of all democratic nations," Walesa wrote.

The three Baltic nations have all declared their determination to peacefully regain the independence lost when they were forcibly incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1940.

Lithuania declared its independence March 11, Estonia declared the Soviet Union an occupying power and pledged to restore full independence.



Soviet army protests

Two Soviet soldiers burn the copy of the Soviet army newspaper 'Red Star' during a meeting at Moscow's Gorky Park, June 1, called by the soldiers' union 'Shield'. The protesters wanted to draw public attention to the number of casualties in the Soviet army. Poster reads: Number of dead in the Soviet army, 15,000 in six years. (Reuters wirephoto)

Patience of Poles praised

WARSAW, June 2. (Reuters): President Wojciech Jaruzelski and senior ministers discussed Poland's economic austerity measures in unprecedented talks yesterday and lauded society's patience with the painful measures.

Jaruzelski met Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and eight senior ministers five days after landmark local elections in which final results late yesterday confirmed an overwhelming victory for Solidarity.

The official news agency PAP said Solidarity citizens committees won 41.47 per cent of the overall national vote. The PSL Peasants Party trailed on 5.76 per cent and the Social Democratic Party which replaced the disbanded communists last January won just 0.22 per cent.

PAP said Solidarity's triumph was even more emphatic in towns, where it claimed an overwhelming 74 per cent of the vote.

As much as 39.52 per cent of the vote nation-wide went to locally-organised groups and independent candidates. The figures closely matched partial results announced on Wednesday.

A statement by Jaruzelski and the ministers stressed that Poland's reforms, aimed at beating inflation and creating a Western-style free market, could work only with society's understanding and support.

"Poland's chances depend to a decisive extent on upholding social approval for the economic programme which is being realised," the statement said.

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The environment is being damaged everywhere. People have got to understand that there is nowhere to run," said E. Daniel Kinnear, a UN co-ordinator for the event. (Reuters)

Trial suspended

A military court on Wednesday suspended the trial of Nicu Ceausescu (known as the son of deposed communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, until June 25 for further evidence and testimony from new witnesses.

The 39-year-old former Communist Party secretary of Sibiu county is charged with complicity in 'genocides' for ordering security forces to fire on demonstrators during December's revolution that ended his father's 24-year dictatorship.

Nicu has pleaded innocent to the genocide charge but has pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of illegally possession of arms and ammunition. (Reuters wirephoto)

Soviets build secret plants

Mothers demonstrate

MOSCOW, June 2. (Reuters): The Soviet army is using funds meant for converting military factories to civilian production to build secret new plants, a leading anti-military campaigner said yesterday.

"For two years they have been feeding the people fairy tales about converting factories. It turns out that in fact there is practically no conversion at all," parliamentary deputy Major Vladimir Lopatin told Izvestia newspaper.

Lopatin, expelled from the Communist Party in April for criticising the military but later reinstated, said leaders of the Soviet military-industrial complex were recently allocated 63 billion roubles (\$100 billion) to convert factories.

"\$13 billion was actually used for these ends. What was the other \$50 billion for? It turns out it was for the construction of civilian factories directly under military control," he said.

He did not say what kind of factories had been built.

Under a much-publicised programme, thousands of factories are being converted from production of missiles, arms and munitions to civilian goods such as toys and washing machines.

Lopatin is campaigning for huge cuts in Soviet military spending, which soared in the decades before the election of President Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985.

In the 1960s and 1970s the country's best resources had been poured into army projects at the expense of civilian industry.

He said a Defence Ministry official estimated Soviet military spending at 120 billion roubles (\$190 billion) a year compared with previous estimates of 70 billion roubles (\$110 billion). One magazine set it at 200 billion roubles (\$320 billion).

Black-kierchiefed mothers whose sons died in the Soviet peacetime army assembled at a candlelit demonstration in Gorky Park yesterday and demanded an end to forced conscription into the army that kills the nation's sons.

"We want to have our children and not tombstones in graveyards," read a huge sign on the platform on which the mothers cupped candles and held black-bordered pictures of their sons with the official explanations of their deaths attached.

One by one the mothers carried their pictures up to the microphone and accused the army of total insensitivity, charging that 15 soldiers die daily because of hazing and brutality. One sign said 15,000 had died over the last four years.

Estimates of the number of workers who will lose their jobs in the first two years of the unification process range from 500,000 to 4 million. The country has about 10 million workers.

Pohl said in the interview that protests and strikes will be inevitable.

East Germany is wrestling with how to dispose of the so-called "people's owned enterprises," of the old socialist regime.

Pohl said he was not pleased with the progress of that process.

He said 168 such enterprises have been converted to some sort of joint private ownership, 200 are being considered for similar status, but 8,000 are still state-owned.

Pohl said all should be moved to the private sector by the end of October.

East and West Germany, who head coalition governments in both countries, will unite into a single party in October, the general secretary of Bonn's ruling party, Volker Ruehe, said yesterday.

East Germany said yesterday it would end all border controls around West Berlin from July 1, effectively reuniting the city nearly three decades after it was split by the Berlin Wall.

Arms cuts boost Martin reds

Military officer held

SOFIA, June 2. (AP): Police have arrested a senior military officer who allegedly shot and killed a sympathiser of the opposition union of Democratic Force, a newspaper reported yesterday.

The incident occurred on Thursday in Shumen, some 300 kilometres (187 miles) north of Sofia just 10 days prior to Bulgaria's first multiparty elections June 10.

The UDF daily Demokrasiya identified the victim as Julien Penkov, 26. It quoted Lt. Col. Dimitar Danchev, a military investigator, as saying the man under arrest was identified as Lt. Lyulin Stefanov Lukanov.

Meanwhile, representatives of a US and a European fact-finding commission differed somewhat in their criticism of pre-election irregularities.

"Conditions for carrying out elections in Bulgaria are better than in Romania but worse than in Hungary," Austrian Andreas Kohl, executive secretary of the European Democratic Union, a grouping of Christian Democratic and conservative parties told reporters.

Kohl said there were "thousands" of cases of irregularities in electoral lists, adding the opposition was in a position unequal to that of the governing Socialist Party.

Stefanikova said. "Their pre-election meetings are the best-attended and the general sentiment there is against us and other democratic parties advocating a free market economy which they claim will cause even greater unemployment," she said.

Missile may have downed DC-9 in 1980 crash: Italian TV

ROME, June 2. (Reuters): An Italian airliner which crashed into the Mediterranean in 1980, killing all 81 people on board, may have been hit by a missile fired during a battle between jet fighters, Italian television said.

The theory was the latest about the mysterious crash of the domestic DC-9 which went down in the sea off Sicily on the night of June 27, 1980.

A panel of experts this week reported they were divided over whether the plane was destroyed by a missile or a terrorist bomb on board.

On Thursday night a documentary on state television, based on radar records from an air base in Tuscany, claimed records showed there had been a clash between two Libyan MiGs and two unidentified jets which took off from the French island of Corsica to intercept them.

It said the DC-9 had been hit by a stray missile during the dogfight over Italy.

The programme claimed the MiGs were heading north to intercept a plane carrying weapons to opponents of Libyan leader Muammar Khaddafi.

"No one understands anything more," said Finance Minister Rino Formica.

"There is no doubt that this episode is so muddled that there is an attempt to hide a fact which is probably even more grave than the tragedy itself," he said yesterday.

Twenty-three air force radar officers have been charged with hiding evidence and giving false testimony to early inquiries about the crash.

كنا من الفضل

Arabs call for boycott of America

NICOSIA, June 2, (Reuters). Arab commentators, angered by the US veto of a UN Security Council resolution to send a fact-finding mission to Israeli-occupied areas, called today for an economic boycott of America.

"The Arabs should adopt a final attitude towards the US based on stopping economic dealings with Washington, including banning American companies and banks from operating in Arab countries," said Qatar's Al-Raya newspaper.

"All imports from America, topped by weapons and planes, should stop."

"By doing so we will lose nothing except an enemy fighting us with all means and harming our interests, while America will lose much because it will find no substitute for our investments in its companies and banks," it said.

Fourteen of the 15 Security Council members voted on Thursday to send a three-member commission to the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza.

EEC calls situation in held lands as untenable

BRUSSELS, June 2, (Reuters). The European Economic Community said today that the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was untenable and that it was determined to ensure that human rights were observed in the territories.

The 12 EEC governments said there had been an alarming build-up of attacks and counter-attacks between Palestinians and Israelis since the "tragic events" of May 20 in which some 15 Palestinians were killed in the occupied areas.

In a joint foreign policy statement, the 12 condemned all such acts without reservations.

Strip to recommend ways to protect Palestinians but the US veto overrode their votes.

Resort to the UN followed the murder of seven Gaza Strip Arabs by an Israeli described as deranged and an ensuing escalation in the 29-month-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli rule.

The Jordanian newspaper Al-

"These events underline once again that the status quo in the occupied territories is not sustainable," they said.

A two-and-a-half-year-old uprising by Palestinians against Israeli rule in the territories has claimed hundreds of victims.

The EEC governments reiterated the need for early progress towards a Middle East peace settlement.

They said they would encourage all efforts to promote an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue that could lead to a comprehensive solution at an international conference under United Nations auspices.

Ra'i said the veto was tantamount to a "green light to the aggressors to commit more crimes."

"It also demonstrates American insistence on preventing the international community from exercising any role to protect the Palestinian people from extermination, liberate their land and establish peace and stability in the (Middle East) region."

The English-language Qatari newspaper Gulf Times said by using the right of veto against the resolution "Washington has again isolated itself."

"It has once more shown its disregard for the international community and Palestinians who die daily in occupied

The Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) should participate in such a conference, they said. Successive Israeli governments have refused to deal with the PLO.

The EEC said it also supported giving the United Nations a role in the occupied territories, "particularly in relation to the protection of the population."

"The community and its member states are resolved to step up their support for the observance of the human rights of the population of the occupied territories and have already commenced initiatives in this respect," it said.

territories at the hands of the Israelis."

The Saudi Arabian newspaper Okaz said Arabs "demand a satisfactory explanation from Washington for using the veto."

"It is the stand to be taken by the Arabs and Palestinians towards this explanation that will determine to a great extent the fate of the peace process in the region."

Commandos planned to hit US embassy

It's just beginning; we'll strike again, PLF

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 2, (AP). Palestinian commandos planned to fire Soviet-made rockets at the US embassy in Tel Aviv as part of their aborted raid on the Israeli coast, an Israeli military analyst said today.

The remarks by Ron Ben-Isai, broadcast on Israel radio, provided the most detailed account yet of the alleged plans to strike the US embassy during Wednesday's raid.

Israeli officials have confirmed that the embassy was a target but did not say that as least one, possibly two, had orders, after onloading their men in the Tel Aviv Marina, to go back to sea and launch from the sea the rockets on the American embassy, said Ben-Isai, military correspondent for the daily Yediot Ahranot.

He was referring to the Soviet-made Katyusha rockets carried by the commandos.

Ben-Isai said that even if the commandos had succeeded in aiming at the embassy from the sea, it was unlikely they would have hit their target, located in the hotel district near the Mediterranean.

"We know that the Katyusha is a very inaccurate thing. To hit the American embassy from a small boat in the sea waves is very difficult, if not impossible," Ben-Isai said.

US embassy spokesman Don Coffman today refused comment on the reports, and would not say whether the embassy had stepped up security.

In Jerusalem, an official who spoke on condition of anonymity said Friday that the commandos carried maps showing the Tel Aviv hotel district as a target.

"During the debriefing (of the commandos) ... it was established that one of the targets in the vicinity of the hotel district was the US embassy," said the high-ranking source, who declined to elaborate.

Meanwhile, pro-PLO Palestinian leaders from the West Bank and Gaza Strip condemned the United States for vetoing a UN Security Council Resolution regarding the occupied lands.

The resolution called for a UN fact-finding mission to report abuses of Palestinians in the area. The vote in the council was 14-1.

The Palestinian leaders who yesterday ended a 13-day hunger strike pressing for such an observer force, also called on Arab states to boycott US-made products.

In other developments, Israel's head of military intelligence, Maj. Gen. Amon Shahak, provided a detailed account of alleged Libyan involvement in Wednesday's sea raid.

Shahak said the commandos trained in a camp set aside for them by Libyan authorities on the Mediterranean coast.

Meanwhile, the leader of the Palestinian group vowed in remarks published today in Kuwait to stage more strikes.

"The Jerusalem operation is the first communiqué. It is just the beginning," Kuwait Liberation Front (PLF) leader Abu Abbas said.

Abu Abbas denied Israeli accusations that Libya was involved in the raid.

Libyan Ambassador Ashour Fortas said today the United States will be held responsible for any Israeli attack on Libya in retaliation.

He said in an interview on the communist-run Voice of the People radio station that Israel was consulting "with the United States for an aggression against Libya."

would not provide details.

The commandos' members of the Palestine Liberation Front headed by Mohammed Abbas, originally planned to approach the coast in five speedboats and hit targets along the shore.

But three vessels broke down, one was captured at sea and the fifth was spotted after it landed on Nizzanim beach 30 kms (18 miles) south of Tel Aviv. Four commandos were killed and 12 were captured.



Leading Palestinian activist Faisal Hussein (left) confers with Fawzan Abu Ayyash, head of Arab Journalists Association in the occupied territories at a press conference in which Palestinian leaders broke off contacts with the US. (Reuters wirephoto)

Two wounded in bombing at army base

NABATYEH, Lebanon, June 2, (AP). A bomb exploded at a Lebanese army training base near this southern town today, wounding two officers, police reported.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, said the bomb was planted at the entrance to the complex on a hill 10 miles (14 kilometres) west of Nabatiyeh.

He said the wounded were a captain and a lieutenant, but declined to give their names. Army headquarters in Beirut withheld comment on the report.

Police said the explosion caused some damage, but gave no details.

The one-storey building on a hill overlooking the Mediterranean was a military radar base before the civil war broke out in 1975.

The radar equipment was removed several years ago and the facility has been used as a training base, mainly for Muslim soldiers serving in south Lebanon.

Most of the troops in the south sympathise with the Syrian-backed Shiite Amal militia, which has been fighting with the fundamentalist, Iranian-backed Hezbollah, since mid-1987.

Jihad, now nine, cried for weeks when he first arrived at the immaculate Al-Imam Al-Khoi orphanage, desolated by the memory of his father killed by a shell in Lebanon's interminable civil war.

"Jihad, his younger brother and sister have come a long way. They were so miserable when they came three years ago," said Aliya Koraim, 29, who helps

Future anybody's guess

No end seen to Afghans' misery

KABUL, June 2, (Kuna). Those who thought a Soviet troop withdrawal would put an end to violence in Afghanistan have been woefully wrong, for the killing continues and so does the misery of this impoverished nation.

As Kabul and other Afghan cities continue to come under opposition fire, Afghanistan's future remains anybody's guess and analysts here say optimism is a luxury they cannot afford.

The streets of Kabul tell the whole story about life in Afghanistan as images of poverty and maimed children occur in a quick succession that testifies to the magnitude of the country's social and economic problems, let alone its political ones.

The civil war, poor health conditions and poverty have conspired to reduce life expectancy in this Asian nation to 43 years, according to official figures.

Three to five people are admitted to hospitals everyday for treatment of rocket-fire wounds as the rebels shower Kabul with gunfire.

About 45 per cent of the casualties are children and Kabul's overcrowded hospitals are taking casualties three times their capacity.

A lifeline of supplies from Moscow to Kabul helps Afghanistan to live with its meagre resources, and the supply routes are never safe from rebel attacks, which add to the woes of the Kabul government.

Yet the cloak of poverty which drapes Kabul betrays uncanny images of affluence reserved for a selected few.

A black market flourishes also with stores packed with food supplies, delicacies and luxury items that go for sky-high prices on which the authorities virtually have no control.

In the meantime, the Soviet Union continues to seek a national reconciliation in Afghanistan to put an end to the senseless bloodletting but the complexity of the country's political problems makes a solution as elusive as it was when Soviet forces were here for much of the past decade.

supervise 850 boys and girls at the orphanage.

"They've now got used to us and love us."

The Khoi orphanage, 15 km (nine miles) south of Beirut, was built six years ago by Mohammed Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual mentor of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah movement — the Shiite Muslim party.

The orphanage, on 10,000 square metres (yards) of green hillside overlooking the sparkling Mediterranean Sea, is one of Fadlallah's projects to help care for thousands of children traumatised by 15 years of war.

Away from the electricity and water shortages

Fate of Britons linked to Rushdie

BEIRUT, June 2, (Agencies). A Hezbollah leader today repeated his call for Britain to expel author Salman Rushdie as a way of speeding the release of British hostages in Lebanon.

"The freedom of one of the British hostages could be the price of Britain's decision to expel Salman Rushdie," Hussein Musawi told the international television news agency Al-Jazeera.

"We advise the British government to think how to expel Salman Rushdie ... this act would of course have very positive impact on the issue of the British hostages," said Musawi, who made two similar statements earlier this week.

He is a senior official in Hezbollah believed to be holding most of the 15 Western hostages in Lebanon. Three are Britons — Terry Waite, John McCarthy and Jack Mann.

"Certain Islamic groups holding the Britons could ... release some of the hostages in return for Rushdie's expulsion," Musawi said. His group has denied involvement in kidnapping.

In February last year the late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini ordered Muslims to kill Rushdie, accusing him of blasphemy in his novel "The Satanic Verses."

The Muslim-born author has since been in hiding in Britain.

Musawi said a possible unofficial visit to Tehran by British Members of Parliament to discuss the fate of the Britons could yield positive results "if they follow the right method."

Lebanese kidnappers in April released two Americans who had been held more than three years. They described the decision as a goodwill gesture.

An Iranian official said today that Tehran would agree to talks with London if the intention were to discuss Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses."

Hussein Musawi, director-general of the Foreign Ministry, also said Iran would continue its efforts for release of all hostages in Lebanon.

Musawi said the Indian-born Rushdie's book was "the greatest obstacle in Tehran-London relations."

"If direct talks were proposed to discuss Rushdie's blasphemous book, and to exchange views about the difficulties in the way of resuming relations, we would not reject such a proposal," he said.

He said London would "have to make it clear that it respects Islam and Muslims, and condemns insults to Islam, such as those contained in Rushdie's book."

Referring to Islam as Britain's second largest religion Musawi said that "a great step" toward resumption of ties could be if the British Parliament revised an old blasphemy law.

British Muslims angered at Rushdie's book have demanded that the law, which only applies to insults to Christianity, be changed to apply to Islam as well.

Musawi said he refused direct talks in Dublin with a British official last month because "it was not clear what was on the agenda."



Faints during press conference

Abad Aby Diab, a Palestinian employed by the occupied East Jerusalem Electrical Company lies on chairs June 1 after he fainted during a press conference by leading Palestinians at which they broke off contact with the United States and ended a 13-day hunger strike. Diab is the seventh Palestinian who has needed medical treatment during the hunger strike. (Reuters wirephoto)

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Soviet refuseniks demonstrate: About 50 Jewish "refuseniks" rallied downtown Friday evening, urging that their struggle to emigrate not be forgotten while Soviet and US leaders meet in Washington.

The half-hour demonstration on a puddle-filled square in front of the Lenin Library, was timed to coincide with one in Washington. Two vans filled with police were parked nearby and several plainclothes police milled in the crowd. One uniformed officer asked the demonstrators to disperse, then walked away when they showed they had applied to authorities to hold the rally. (AP)

Plan for Jewish settlers demanded: Israeli Premier Yitzhak Shamir was Friday demanded to instruct the authorities to come up with a plan within two weeks for building 50,000 housing units to accommodate Jewish immigrants, Radio Israel reported.

The request came from head of the Knesset (Parliament) Immigration and absorption committee, amid reports that Israel was expecting to receive hundreds of thousands of immigrants, mainly from the Soviet Union, this year.

The broadcast, monitored in Kuwait by Kuna, added that the head of the parliamentary committee also demanded that the government draw up plans for finding jobs for the new comers. (Kuna)

PLO demands of Finland: The Palestine Liberation Organisation demanded Friday the government rescind its decision to allow Soviet Jews in transit through Finland on their way to Israel.

In an open letter to President Mauno Koivisto, the head of the Helsinki PLO office, Zuhair Al Wazir, said allowing Soviet Jews to pass through Finland "infringes on the human rights of the Palestinians."

Al Wazir referred to what he said were recent statements by Israeli immigration officials that Israel could not cope with the influx of tens of thousands of immigrants. (AP)

Libya and Vietnam discuss ties: Vietnamese Finance Minister Hoang Quy, visiting Libya with President Vu Chi Cong, discussed economic, information and cultural ties with Treasury Minister Mohamed Al Bukhari on Saturday, the Libyan News Agency Jana said. (Reuters)

Kurdish refugees fight Turkish police: Five Iraqi Kurdish refugees and a Turkish policeman were injured on Saturday when police tried to stop a protest march by the refugees in a camp in the eastern province of Mus, the semi-official Anadolu News Agency said.

It did not say why the refugees, among some 30,000 Iraqi Kurds sheltered in Turkey, began the protest but quoted Mus Governor Adil Yazar as saying it was an illegal demonstration.

Five Kurds were detained after the fight in which the refugees attacked camp police with sticks and stones, Yazar told the agency.

About 7,500 Kurdish refugees live in the Mus camp. The rest are housed in southeastern Diyarbakir and Mardin provinces. (Reuters)

UN team hold talks in Egypt: A UN team investigating human rights in Israeli-occupied territories held talks on Saturday with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Maguid.

The committee, appointed by the UN General Assembly in 1968, is investigating Israeli practices affecting the human rights of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza. (Reuters)

Hurd holds talks in Jeddah: British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd had a cordial meeting with Saudi Arabia's Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal in Jeddah on Saturday and discussed all questions of mutual interest, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported.

Hurd arrived from Jordan on Friday. (Reuters)

Algeria's veterans campaign for polls

CONSTANTINE, Algeria, June 2, (Reuters). Veterans of Algeria's eight-year war of independence with France are back on the front lines, this time campaigning against Muslim fundamentalists ahead of the country's first free elections.

In this capital of the Algerian east that prides itself as a bastion of anti-colonial resistance, former mujahadeen — freedom fighters — are locked in a war of words with the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

The FIS is the main rival in June 12 municipal and provincial elections to the National Liberation Front (FLN), the guerrilla body that won independence from France in 1962 and has ruled the country unchallenged ever since.

"Who liberated Islam in Algeria? It was the mujahadeen. We don't need people telling us how to be Muslims," said Omar Hamani, a former officer of National Liberation Army.

Hamani and other members of the FLN-affiliated National Organisation of Mujahadeen are up to arms against the use of mosques for political sermons by FIS preachers.

They are incensed that some fundamentalists consider the title mujahid — which in its strict religious sense means one who fights a holy war for God — does not apply to many former guerrilla fighters.

As a group, the former mujahadeen have been on the sidelines of Algerian politics for much of the past 28 years. But the emergence of new political currents — both fundamentalism and parties formed by non-Arabs to promote their culture — have spurred them into action.

A mysterious rash of attacks on tombs of fallen mujahadeen in the south and east of Algeria have also mobilised aged veterans of the war. More than 10,000 marched on the capital on May 11, chanting revolutionary songs and brandishing flags and medals.

A resurgence of patriotic sentiment led by the mujahadeen could be an electoral asset for the FLN, under attack by the opposition for alleged corruption and mismanagement during nearly three decades of one-party rule.

Muslim Shiite home in Al-Dawha offers future for Lebanon's war orphans

AL DAWHA, Lebanon, June 2, (Reuters). Eyes twinkling, Jihad Al-Zain cracked jokes as he gobbled his food with hundreds of other children in an orphanage built by Lebanon's most influential pro-Iranian Muslim leader.

Jihad, now nine, cried for weeks when he first arrived at the immaculate Al-Imam Al-Khoi orphanage, desolated by the memory of his father killed by a shell in Lebanon's interminable civil war.

"Jihad, his younger brother and sister have come a long way. They were so miserable when they came three years ago," said Aliya Koraim, 29, who helps

that plague many Lebanese towns and safe from fighting in Beirut, the children learn Arabic, English and French, religious verses, science, art, mathematics, history and geography.

They are taught to pray and to look after each other and their dormitories and playrooms.

There are more than 25,000 orphans among Lebanon's 1.5 million Shiite community alone.

But Al-Khoi orphanage, a complex of five four-story buildings, accepts any needy child between the age of four and 16 regardless of faith or sect. "We have Maronite Christians, Druze, Sunni

Muslims," said orphanage director Adel Fakhreddin. "This is not a political institution, it is a humane social Islamic institution."

"Everything they need, we have in stock," he said, walking through storerooms packed to the ceiling.

But the cost is high: Fakhreddin said clothing and educating a child cost \$600 a year. The home, which can hold 1,000 orphans, needs at least \$800,000 a year to operate.

It employs a staff of 175 teachers, cooks, cleaners and maintenance workers.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Cheating only way to pass, say students

Stricter penalties in store

AS OVER 20,000 students are preparing for the final exam of the Higher Secondary Certificate examinations, many students still believe that cheating is the only way to pass. One arts section student confidently said: "I will graduate this year but as a plain book having stored no information of any value." Another student stressed: "I will pass the examination," but confessed "I know nothing." Majority of students believe that "end justifies the means" and that cheating is their only way to secure the necessary percentage for admission at the university.

However, the Education Ministry has been stiffening its policy against cheating. The ministry has in recent years warned

students of dire consequences if caught cheating. Orders were issued to invigilators to strictly prevent cheating in all examination halls. Despite all this, students have their own ways of cheating. Most common means of cheating among the students is the reduced-size photocopies. Just before the start of every examination, the illegal business of reduced-size photocopies booms.

But the causes of cheating are plenty. Majority of students blame "lack of time" for being the major reason for their resorting to cheating. One student said that time given to study is very short. Students remain involved in monthly examinations all over the year and thus left with not

enough time to revise properly before the final whole-book examination. He said that the ministry sometimes appoints newly graduated teachers to teach higher secondary students and many of these teachers are not qualified enough to deliver the syllabus competently. The student said that whenever we ask such new teachers for an explanation to some points, they tell us they will give us the whole 25 per cent marks given by teachers to students on their activities in class and counted in the final average. The students added that they don't promise us this because they are generous but to hide their inability. One student added that another reason for cheating is the huge syllabus which they

can't cover.

Some students complained of unstable social conditions. One student said that his father is married to a second woman and he feels unstable and finds cheating the most easy way for passing. "I don't feel I am happy with myself when I cheat. I just pass without getting proper education," the student stressed. One girl admitted she never bothered to study during the whole year. "Naturally at the time of examination I will study what I can and I will have to cheat for the rest," the girl said.

The higher secondary examination will begin Thursday, June 7 and will end on June 18. Results are expected a few days after the last examination.



Some of last year's higher secondary students at their exam desks.

Committee to review social law for minors

THE Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammad Al Ahmad recently issued a decision ordering the formation of a committee in the ministry to revise the Minors Law No. 3 for 1983. The committee is headed by the assistant undersecretary for social welfare, Dr Latifa Al Rujaih. Members in the committee include among others, head of the juvenile prosecution Mohammad Al Zubi, director of the Juveniles Welfare House, Mohammad Razzouki.

Loopholes

According to the decision, the committee will study the minors law especially the proposed amendments. The amendments are aimed at bridging some loopholes in the law which were found during the application of the law over the past 7 years.

The committee will also prepare a detailed report on the legal aspects of the recommended amendments and ensure they are in line with other laws.

According to the decision, the committee has the right to invite any personality to the committee meetings to ask their opinions on various issues. The decision asked the committee to work out a detailed report on its mission after completing it without specifying the duration required for that.

9 co-ops to install computer systems

THE general manager of Computer Integrated Systems Company, Saad Al Barak was quoted as saying that about nine co-operative societies are going to conclude contracts with his company for introducing computers in their day-to-day functions.

He told reporters in the wake of a signing ceremony between his company and Kheitan Co-operative Society that the number of societies who might benefit from his company's services may soar to twenty by 1991. He added that his company was extending a comprehensive system for computer activities which had been designed to deal with all co-operative societies activities including selling, purchasing, storage system, accounts, payroll and personnel affairs.

He disclosed that the Al Rawdah Co-operative Society, Al Khaldiya Co-operative Society, Al Ardiya and Al Faiha were among the co-operative societies who were striving to incorporate computers in their services. According to the new system, Barak said that the relevant societies will be able to co-ordinate the purchase and sales operations through the Co-operative Societies Union, adding that the Kuwait Finance House will participate in financing such a system.

Meanwhile, a contract was signed yesterday between the company and Kheitan Co-operative Society to provide the society with the computer systems and programming apparatuses.

The signing ceremony was attended by the chairman of Kheitan Co-operative Society Mohammed and a number of senior officials at the society.

Ferry baby

A KUWAITI lady gave birth to a baby boy a few days ago on board a ferry travelling from Failaka Island to the mainland. On the return journey to Kuwait, the lady felt labour pains but was assisted by a doctor, who incidentally was travelling on the same ferry. Both the mother and the baby were in good health and were taken to hospital after arrival.



Prisoners' artwork exhibited

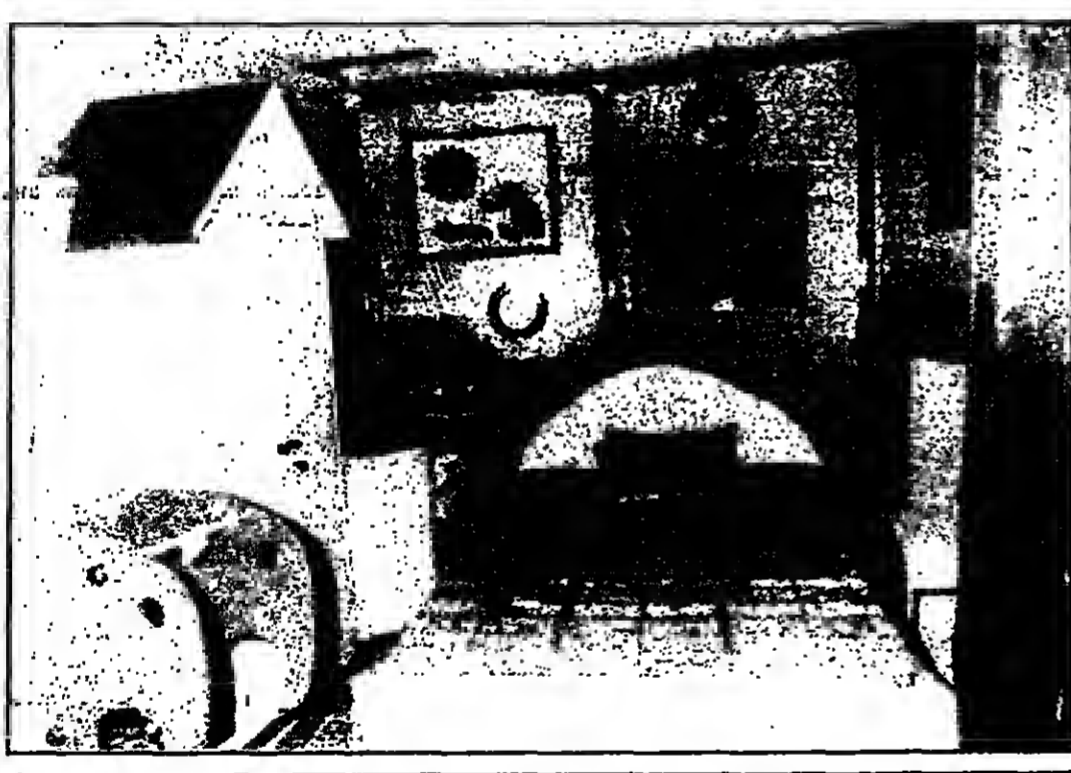
Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah patronised the opening of the fifth exhibition of prisoners' artwork at the art gallery of the Kuwait Teachers Society.

The ministry undersecretary Maj. Gen. Yousef Al Khoraki attended the function on behalf of the minister accompanied by top military officials.

The opening ceremony was also attended by the secretary-general of Kuwait Council of Ministers Abdul Aziz Al Otaihi and deputy chancellor General Ghazi Obeid Al Sahar, and assistant undersecretaries of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour and other officials.

Khoraki expressed his satisfaction with the high level of artwork exhibited by inmates, pointing out that prisoners in Kuwait are no longer a place to lock up social misfits, but where misfits can reform, mend and be rehabilitated to be productive and able to earn honest money.

The objects on display included the works of female and male inmates, such as bedroom accessories, sheets, blankets, wooden chests and others. Picture (above) shows Khoraki making his speech and (below) some of the artwork of inmates.



From the courts

6 men get 7 years each for sex with minor

THE Court of Appeal upheld a verdict by the Criminal Court sentencing six men to 7 years imprisonment each and acquitting the seventh for having sexual intercourse with a 15-year-old girl with her full consent. The girl told the court that as she had some disputes with her parents, she decided to leave the house. She capitalised on the first opportunity she got and ran away from her grandmother in Salmiya market.

After some time she met with the first two accused who took her in their car to a private farm in Funaitees. Three other accused were at the farm. All the five men had sexual intercourse with the girl with her full consent as she told the prosecution and later the court. Late in the night, the girl asked the men for a place she can spend the night. They took her to an apartment belonging to a friend. There were two men in the apartment, the owner and another man who had sexual intercourse with the girl.

The men tried to deny having had sex with the minor who is still under 21 years of age, but the Criminal Court found evidence enough to jail six of them for 7 years each with hard labour and acquitted the apartment owner. The Court of Higher Appeals upheld the sentence.

THE Criminal Court sentenced in absentia a man to 5 years imprisonment and ordered his deportation from Kuwait for forging documents to obtain a loan from the bank. The same court sentenced his companion, who guaranteed him, to 3 years imprisonment for taking part in the forgery.

The court was told that the first accused wanted to buy a car and applied for a loan from the bank which asked for a guarantor. To get the guarantor, the man went to the second accused and together forged a work certificate for the second accused, stole the stamp and imitated the personnel manager's signature and the certificate looked genuine. The certificate stated that the second accused was employed in the company although he was fired shortly before that and the certificate also forged the amount of the salary.

The first accused got the loan and the car but later the forgery was discovered. The bank contacted the

personnel manager who informed them that the employment certificate was fake. The second accused admitted the charges but told the court he was under the influence of alcohol when they did the forgery. The first accused was out of the country at the time of the trial.

THE Criminal Court sentenced a taxi driver to 5 years imprisonment with hard labour for molesting a female passenger who threw herself out of the car to escape. The court heard that the lady, a maid, was heading for her country's embassy. She took the taxi and sat on the front seat. After some time, the taxi driver began making passes but the lady refused. He tried to force himself on her when she threw herself out of the car and got several minor injuries on her body. The driver returned and took her to the police station. The taxi driver denied the charges and told the court that the lady threw herself out of the car for no reason stressing he did nothing to her. He added that he took her to the police station where she claimed he was molesting her. The court found that the lady's statements were correct as the taxi driver failed to provide any reason why the lady threw herself out of the car.

A MAN has been fined KD20 by the Court of Misdemeanours for smashing the glass of two cars parked near the house of their owners, a local daily reported.

The court was told that the defendant who was accompanied by three of his friends parked his car near those of the plaintiffs and smashed the windows of their cars. However, a neighbour took down the licence plate number of the car of the accused and the police were able to apprehend him.

The court also fined his friends KD5 each for abetting the defendant's vandalism.

THE same court also convicted another defendant identified as S.K. for forging an official document and sentenced him to one year in jail to be followed by deportation from the country.

The defendant appealed the sentence to the Court of Appeals, who after considering all deliberations of the Court of Misdemeanours upheld the verdict.

Nationality no bar for visit visas, says Wohaib

DIRECTOR of the General Department for Immigration Affairs at Kuwait's Ministry of Interior Colonel Ahmed Al Wohaib has denied any obstacles encountered by holders of Palestinian travel documents in obtaining visit visas.

In an interview with a local daily, the official said that the department granted visiting visas to applicants after the necessary scrutiny and study in accordance with the stipulated conditions irrespective of the nationality of the applicant.

The official confirmed that family residence permits will be granted only to the wife and children and parents are not included in this category irrespective of the salary.

Wohaib added that the visit visa could not be transferred into a work visa in the private sector, but it could be transferred into a family visa for wife and children and a residence permit as a housemaid.

He clarified that the visiting visa could be transferred to a work permit in case the visitor finds a job in the public sector. He added that those who came to Kuwait to work should obtain the residence stamps within two months of their arrival into the country.

Extensions

On the other hand, the official was quoted as saying that the department was taking into account the human circumstance of expatriates. He clarified that those wives who had expired or were divorced will be given the necessary family visas for their own wives, in accordance with some specific restrictions.

He added that his department had been given the necessary power to transfer the visit visa into a temporary residence permit in accordance with certain criteria stipulated in the pertinent law.

Speaking of the extension of the residence permits for the handicapped, the official said the necessary extension will be given in accordance with the relevant medical reports, clarifying that those applicants with curable diseases could be given residence valid for one year, while applicants with incurable ones could be given necessary residence that might be valid for more than one year.

He added that those who got the necessary permission to be out of the country for more than six months, the validity of their permission will be connected with that of their residences.

Marriage

He added that men who marry in Kuwait to women under the sponsorship of their fathers will be allowed to sponsor their wives irrespective of their salaries. He added that, in case the wife stays under the sponsorship of her father she would not be treated as a violator.

It would be preferable, however, if the father cancels the residence of his married daughter. Wohaib said in case of divorce, the divorced woman could restore her residence under the sponsorship of her father.

Shuwaikh phones to be rectified, says Sharhan

KUWAIT'S Minister of Communications Abdullah Al Sharhan was quoted as saying that the disruption in telephone services in the Al Shuwaikh area in the morning will be rectified by July with the installation of a new computer system.

In an interview with a local daily Sharhan said that the new computer system had been designed to record about 800,000 telephone conversations per hour, hinting that the current computer system accommodated only about 150,000 calls per hour.

He added that the relevant crisis was supposed to be over during May, but the supplier had delayed installing the relevant equipments.

Haj caravans to leave June 12-23

Saudis provide every comfort

THE Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs has called on all haj caravan organisers to adhere to the time schedule set for the departure of their caravans as endorsed by the ministry and relevant official authorities concerned.

An official source at the ministry said that the higher committee on haj set June 12 as the date for departure of the first batch of haj caravans, to leave the country for the holy lands.

He added that the ministry has already sent a special committee to check out the building rented by the caravan organisers to accommodate the pilgrims to ensure that they meet with the conditions of comfort both in Makkah and Madina.

He called on all hajjis to abide by the instructions given by the Saudi authorities, adding that the number of caravans to leave Kuwait for the holy lands is 46, and that caravans will leave the country daily until June 23.

Meanwhile, Saudi government continues to provide all means of comfort and security to

the hajjis in different places inside the holy lands, through the massive expansion projects currently under construction.

More than 18,000 million Saudi riyals have now been spent on the colossal project to expand the compounds of the holy shrines in Makkah and Madina.

The hajjis for this season will be able to have a close look at the fast developing level of services given to them in the holy lands despite the incessant progress of construction.

Special arrangements have been made by Saudi authorities to control the flow of Saudi citizens inside the holy lands during this season whereby hajjis coming from abroad will have ample room for their rituals.

Six bridges have of late been completed for the hajjis performing the shuttle ritual between Al Safa and Marwa during their influx and outflux while five escalators have been set up to convey pilgrims up to the mosque.

The Grand Mosque has also been provided with water cool-

ing systems for the Zamzam water and set up 500 water tanks, of 100 litre capacity each besides increasing the total number of taps to more than 800.

In Muna, work is in progress to expand the bridge leading to the stone-throwing location at a total cost of 1 million Saudi riyals and work is expected to be completed at the end of the current Arabic month.

Meanwhile, hajjis will be supplied with 37 million plastic bottles of cold water, and 4,200,000 others will be distributed in Arafat from 40 water coolers set up there for the first time, using 38 vehicles to carry and distribute the bottled water.

The Saudi Public Health Ministry has made arrangements to provide preventive and treatment services in Makkah, Medina and other holy locations. 22 new hospitals with a total number of 5,362 beds are being set up here along with 137 health centres, a number of which will be providing exclusive health care to victims of sun-strokes.

Municipal car rental system a success

THE director of transport and maintenance department at Kuwait Municipality Abdurazak Al Qodhaihi has praised the car rental system followed by Kuwait Municipality. He pointed out that this system had realised a remarkable saving for the municipality both in overheads and manpower.

In an interview with the daily Al Sayassah, the official confirmed the importance of the role undertaken by the three emergency teams of the municipality which work in the Capital Governorate, Ahmadi Governorate and Jahra Governorate. These teams had been provided with the latest technology for removing sand, paving the roads and protecting the farms at Al Abdali and Al Wafra areas.

Qodhaihi added that these teams were being provided with the necessary bulldozers and dredgers in addition to ambulances, vacuum tankers and mobile workshops, adding that the teams were working around the clock.

Apart from the above, the official said these teams also assisted in extinguishing fires in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior represented by the Fire Department.

Meanwhile, the official has denied that his department intends to dismiss a number of drivers and technicians, hinting that the car rental system followed by the municipality would not affect the positions of these demobilisations at the department for the time being.

He added that the municipality owned a huge fleet of vehicles which consists of about 1,183 vehicles with 1,131 drivers, 512 technicians, 70 administrators, nine engineers and 12 assistant engineers, 52 qualified technicians, 26 service employees, 23 foremen and 31 janitors, adding that all of these could not be made redundant.

Kuwaiti held in Bangkok

KUWAITI official authorities are following up with concern the developments of a Kuwaiti citizen held in Bangkok for possession of arms and a large quantity of ammunition.

Friends of the defendant coming from Thailand have stressed that he had no bad intention, and that the purpose of keeping arms in his possession was to be able to defend himself in a country full of crime and rival gangs.

Sources have been quoted by a local daily that the Thai authorities are investigating the case and securitymen there believe that the Kuwaiti citizen has ideas about political Arab figures in Bangkok and that he might face charges on such grounds.

MOC directory criticised

A NUMBER of officials at the Ministry of Communications has criticised the new ministry release of the telephone directory, pointing out that it is a flop.

The reasons given by the critics of the new directory included the bad quality of paper, miserable binding, mixed up subscriber numbers and the Kuwaiti map

printed in the directory failed to show the five governorates in good clear colours.

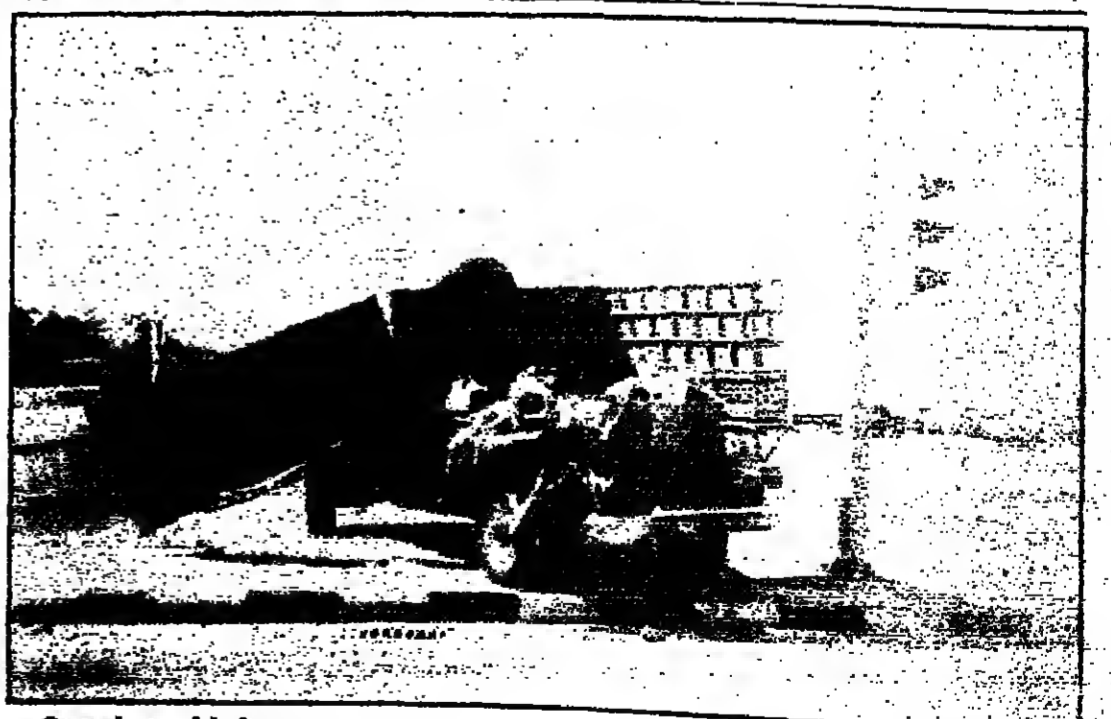
Other reasons included the tiny print letters, failure to supply the telephone numbers of some vital government concerns, and making arbitrary classification of subscriber's residential quarters.

Expired

Maulana Mohammad Shafiq, Vice Principal, Darul Quran Al Karim Farwana expired at Ibn Sina Hospital Friday.

His Janaza Prayer was performed at Sulaibihiyah cemetery at 5.10pm yesterday.

His body will be flown home by PIA today.



Crash and injury

Four people sustained injuries as a result of an accident that took place at the intersection of the Mohammed Bin Al Qasem Street and the Traffic Department Street in Shuwaikh, involving a half lorry and a vanette, pictured above. The accident left the two vehicles in a bad shape and knocked down a lamp post.

Fitness clubs now controlled by municipality

Facilities to be checked

SPORTS and fitness clubs in Kuwait operate under the supervision, authorisation and control of Kuwait Municipality, following the collection of necessary approvals from the relevant government authorities.

Applications for a practice and operation licences are submitted to the municipality, the Ministry of Commerce and

Industry, the Ministry of Public Health, the Social Affairs Ministry, the Interior Ministry and the General Traffic Department.

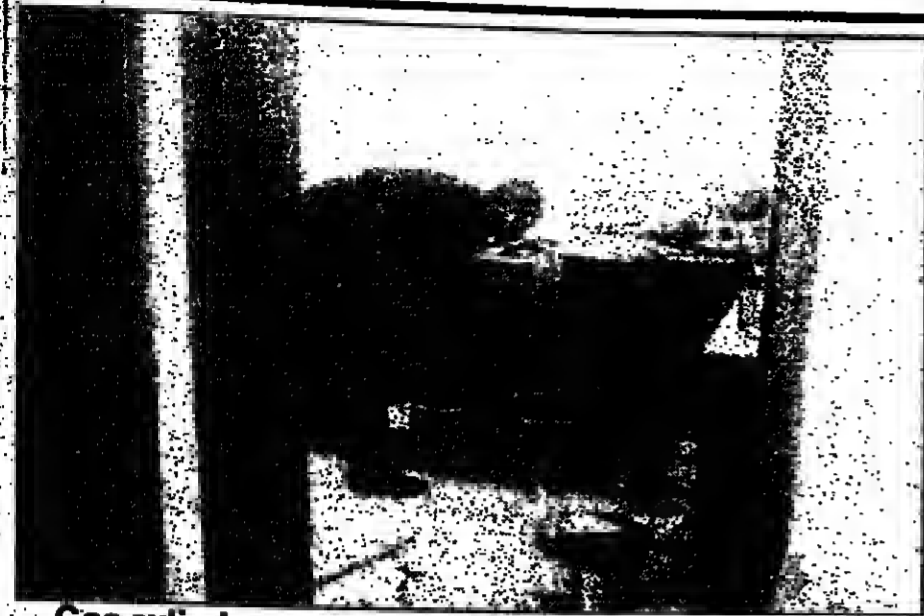
The municipality supervises and follows up control over these clubs during operation to ensure that the owners honour the stipulations of authorisation and to ensure

that the instructors and instructresses operating there carry valid health certificates, and keep regular control over matters of public health.

Among the sanitary stipulations that the club owner must honour is the provision of his facility with sound water supply and drainage system, equip his club

with all necessary lockers and provide a reliable lighting and ventilation system.

The Food and Shop Licensing Department is one of the agencies with functions to run in these facilities, and these include supervision and control over the catering services inside them and checking out complaints and establish the truth and validity of these complaints.



Gas cylinder explodes

A gas cylinder exploded yesterday morning in a bachelor home in Hassawi, Area 1, Street 124. One person was injured and received burns. According to preliminary investigation, the explosion was caused by gas leakage during the night. Reportedly, the residents had not switched off the gas cylinder.



The explosion resulted in extensive damage, including doors, window panes and furnishings. The walls cracked due to the impact of the explosion. First Lieutenant Abdullah Ali, who was on the scene, said the explosion was due to negligence. Pictures show the damaged house. (Report and pictures by Ahmed Emad)

Residential area stores posing hazards: Qabandi

Proper storage methods requested

USING residential buildings and related facilities as storage areas is a violation of laws as determined by Kuwait Municipality, General Civil Defence Department and other relevant authorities in the government.

Despite numerous warnings on the hazards of fires being caused by such illegal storage, negligence among citizens and particularly among landlords are the main factors of such dangerous practices.

Unauthorised storage in the basement of residential buildings is a cause of great danger to tenants and neighbouring residential blocks. The possibility of a fire occurring is much higher during summer than in other seasons due to the extreme heat. Landlords who are greedy try to utilise unauthorised sites for storage purposes. These landlords neglect safety aspects or have little awareness about safety and security laws. This is instrumental in causing many fires that claim both a high toll in human lives and material damage.

The director of public rela-

tions and follow-up at the General Fire Department, Ali Qabandi, speaking to a local daily said that the department has issued specific regulations for the protection of basements. These stipulations relate to location of basements with respect to surrounding projects or population density, types of materials used in building these basements and the number of exits in these basements.

Safety

The official added that depending on the nature of goods stored in any basement, a comprehensive early warning system should be mounted prior to storing material in addition to fire extinguishers. He indicated that the General Fire Department is fully responsible for mounting and monitoring safety devices installed in fire protection. He added that landlords are required to mount such safety devices by law and sign maintenance contracts with official companies. He commented that unfortunately, many landlords neglect maintaining these devices on a regular basis.

The official disclosed that a number of licences to use basements as storage areas were refused by the department due to the fact that they did not comply with safety measures at the time of construction.

Qabandi stressed that the department exerts great efforts to use all information media facilities in the country to enhance the level of awareness among citizens and landlords in relation to fire-fighting and proper storage methods. With these objectives, the department has appointed inspectors to conduct regular inspection of buildings and shops around Kuwait's residential and commercial areas.

To maintain high standards of all members involved in the safety procedures, special training courses are held regularly. He said that it is also in the interests of insurance companies to ensure that fire fighting devices are well maintained, Qabandi said.

Also speaking on the subject, the director of the Technical Affairs Department at the General Civil Defence Department,

Lt Col Issa Bahzad stated that basements built for the purpose of being used as underground safety bunkers in the event of war, will not be permitted to be used for any other purposes.

The department, he said, spares no efforts in conducting awareness campaigns through conferences and symposiums in addition to undertaking field training for volunteers and citizens. On the issues of basements, built for protective purposes, the official said that they are jointly protected by the General Fire Department, Kuwait Municipality and his department. To agree to special protective measures, the official said that special meetings had been held with all pertinent authorities.

He pointed out that a special study was conducted on 3,500 basements all over the country to measure their safety levels on aspects such as electrical wiring, air conditioning and storage. An ideal method of using these basements would be to convert them into entertainment areas for residents or kept completely empty to be used in emergencies.

Baghdad summit

Amir briefs cabinet

KUWAIT, June 2, (Kuna): His Highness the Amir today presided over a special session for the cabinet at the Bayan Palace briefing ministers on results of the Baghdad Extraordinary Arab Summit conference in the period May 28-30, State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed said.

He added that His Highness informed the cabinet on resolutions passed by the summiters especially toward situation in the occupied Arab lands, Arab solidarity, co-ordinating Arab initiatives and efforts toward finding a settlement to the Lebanese crisis.

The cabinet was also informed on the summit decision toward Arab development issues in general and enhancing political and economic integration among the Arab states in addition to studying means of encouraging Arab investments in the Arab nation, Rashed said.

The Amir pointed to present peace efforts between Iraq and Iran, the state minister went on.

Tobacco industry luring children

Passive smoking new danger

GENEVA, June 2, (Kuna): The tobacco industry, aware of how many new smokers it needs to recruit to replace those that die from tobacco related diseases, is turning to new potential customers, of whom children are the most significant target.

In Kuwait alone nearly half of the country's junior and senior high school students smoke.

Kuwaiti Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Awadhi who heads the Anti-Smoking Committee in the country has been quoted as saying that a survey of 8,000 school students showed 45 per cent of them smoked compared to 13 and 24 per cent in 1979 and 1985 respectively.

The head of the School Health Department in Kuwait Dr Hussein Al Momen has said that a law banning the import of cigarettes with high tar and nicotine content will be endorsed soon and another law banning cigarette advertising is also to be promulgated.

Momen added that the increase in lung cancer cases among men amounted to about 18.5 per cent of total cancer cases in the country. Cancer cases among women in Kuwait increased in recent years by about 200 per cent and in expatriate women by about 415 per cent.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) notes that if present tobacco consumption trends continue, about 150 million children in the world today will eventually die of tobacco-induced diseases.

WHO points out in a report that the 'story of addiction' is simple: If children can avoid nicotine addiction by the time they are 19 they will probably never smoke in their lives, this is a point the tobacco sector exploits. The lure that draws a child to the first cigarette is subtle and complex according to the WHO report. For some it is an initiation ceremony which may set the tobacco habit for life.

Experimentation often occurs in the company of peers, as this context is where approval is being sought. The motivation to smoke may be related to a wish to try to see oneself apart from friends by being 'more adult' or to gain acceptance through conformity.

WHO observes that peer pressure is used by children to encourage each other to smoke, and far outweighs any fear of long term health risk.

While sporting prowess and community involvement usually boost health during one's adolescence, years, which are stepping stones to adult life, drinking and smoking can compromise

present and future well-being.

Unfortunately, clever advertising continues to link tobacco habits with fun, maturity, and an image of the 'modern' man or woman — indeed there is evidence that advertising directly influences the decision to start smoking. In countries where tobacco advertising has been restricted like Norway, there has been a reduction in smoking prevalence among young people.

As to children who continue to smoke beyond the experimental phase, which indicates that those who believe that the images created by advertisers — where adulthood is portrayed to be free of constraints and where life is glamorous — are more prone to become regular smokers.

Dangers

The world health body points to another potential danger: Passive smoking — the exposure of subjects to environmental tobacco smoke, the mixture of effluents directly released in the ambient air between puffs during the burning of a tobacco product or re-exhaled by the smoker.

Passive smoking is fundamentally different from active smoking, the latter habit is driven by a mixture of 'free choice' and social conditioning, the former is usually an incurred hazard.

If a child lives in a home with smokers, then his exposure to exhaled smoke is equivalent to smoking 80 cigarettes a year, or the nicotine in a quarter of a cigarette a day.

The baby in the womb of a mother who smokes, has an increased risk of being born with a lower weight than that of a nonsmoking mother, and have more respiratory illness and slower growth, because it unwittingly absorbed the toxic elements in cigarettes. This condition is known as Foetal Tobacco Syndrome.

Studies have shown that light and heavy smokers have a 54 per cent and 130 per cent increased risk respectively of having babies who weigh less than 2.5 kg.

Smoking during pregnancy has been associated with premature babies, spontaneous abortions, foetal deaths and those around the time of birth. This is directly linked to birth weight.

The Geneva-based WHO further warns against the recent marketing of several new 'smokeless' tobacco products, aimed at young boys, and skillfully promoted as alternatives to cigarettes.

Scientific research shows that the use of smokeless tobacco, in particular moist snuff (snuff-taking involves the placement of ground tobacco between the

cheek and gum), can cause oral cancer.

The principle suspected carcinogens in smokeless tobacco are N-nitrosamines, chemicals formed during tobacco processing.

Marketing strategies in the US for the new products focus on potential customers among adolescent boys. In 1985, over 35 million dollars was spent on a television and magazine advertisement campaign to promote snuff and chewing tobacco.

Surveys carried out reveal not only how sales have risen, but the number of young boys who are customers — from 1978 to 1985 sales for moist snuff rose by 55 per cent.

The fear, WHO observes, is that the promotion of all such products will influence young boys in other parts of the world just as cigarette smoking did at the turn of the century.

If it does, oral cancer rates may increase in the next century and the progress made may be lost to diseases caused by smokeless tobacco.

Aware of the dangers such products pose, some countries have taken steps to curb their use. Sweden, for example, prohibits free sampling of smokeless tobacco products, requires health warnings, and does not allow people to figure in advertising.

WHO makes a series of recommendations to reinforce existing laws which forbid sale of tobacco products to minors, and the enactment of further laws to restrict advertising and promotion. Prohibiting or restricting the sales from vending machines makes cigarettes, often one of the most widely available products, less accessible to young people, WHO observes.

Cyprus, Hong Kong, and Iceland prohibit all sales of tobacco from such machines, while Belgium, Finland, and Ireland restrict places where they may be installed.

Moreover, banning smoking in schools and other places frequented by young people conveys a strong message that smoking is not acceptable social behaviour.

WHO maintains that legislation that benefits the whole of society, restricting for example, the advertisement and promotion of tobacco products or increasing cost, is of critical importance in the struggle to limit the access of children and adolescents to tobacco.

Because of the demonstrated linkage between cigarette advertising and the start or continuation of smoking, at least 50 countries have restricted or prohibited advertising of cigarettes.

Twenty-one of these countries have imposed a total ban on all tobacco advertising.

Another measure WHO views as crucial in controlling smoking by young people is increasing the cost of cigarettes, usually by raising the tax on them.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Communications training

KUWAIT, June 2, (Kuna): All communications ministry staff will be re-trained and rehabilitated by the end of 1990 under a new performance-enhancing strategy, according to a senior ministry official.

Telephone operators will be mainly involved in such training programmes as they are expected to gain new experience in handling day-to-day pressures resulting from direct contact with the public, the ministry's human resources department head Mohammed Al Refai said today.

Rifai, in an interview with Kuna, admitted that previous training have had their shortcomings due to poor planning. The new training strategy, however, involves new performance evaluation methods and is tailored to cater to the needs of the ministry, he added.

Video programmes would be used in training to make up for the shortage in qualified trainers and cut expenses, while the computer will be introduced for a data base system, Al Refai said.

Kuwait-Japan co-op

TOKYO, June 2, (Kuna): Head of the programme department at Kuwait Television (KTV) Bader Al Mudhaf today affirmed his country's desire to continue co-operation with the Japanese television station (NHK) in the field of programme exchange.

He told Kuna that the visit also reflects the interests of the Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Al Mubarak Al Sabah and will give the Kuwaiti delegation a chance to see the latest educational and cultural programmes produced.

The Kuwaiti delegation, which is on a 12-day official visit to Japan at the invitation of the Japanese Foreign Ministry, consists of Abdullah Al Rakdani, KTV's programme two supervisor, supervisor of the cultural programmes Saoud Al Faris and head of the editing department Jamal Abdulhadi.

Bangladesh-message

ABU DHABI, June 2, (Kuna): United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan today received a message from President of Bangladesh Hussein Mohammed Ershad dealing with bilateral ties.

The message was delivered by Bangladesh's presidential envoy Mohamed Abdul Mannan.

The Bangladeshi envoy arrived here yesterday on a two-day visit to the UAE.

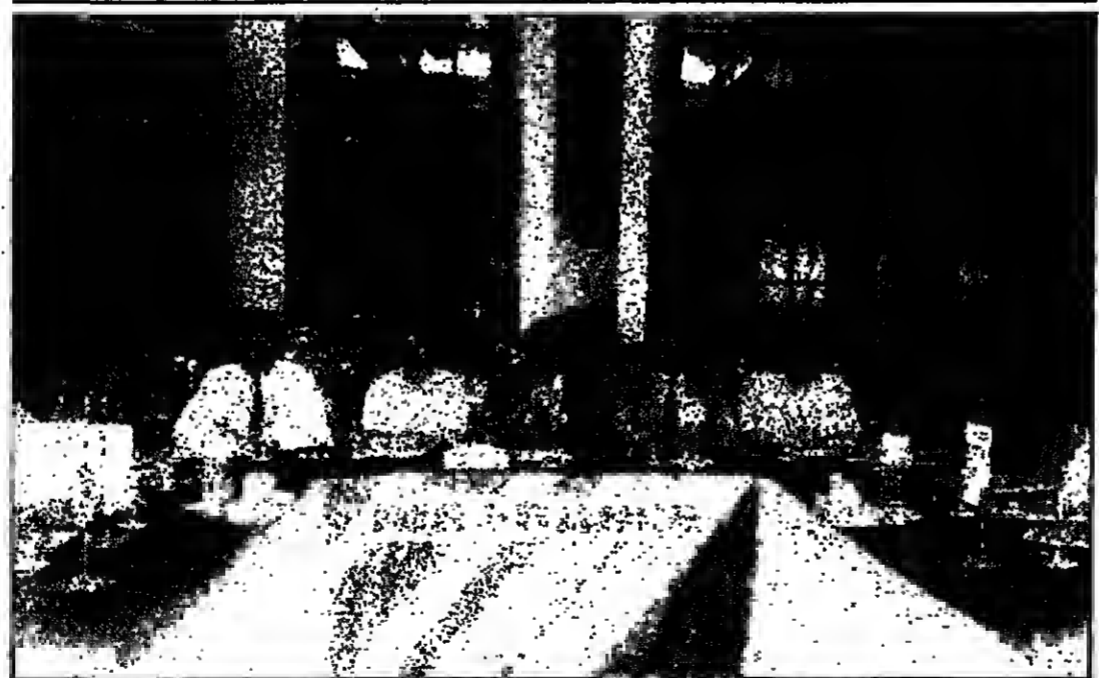
No other details were given on contents of the presidential message.

Investment plots

AN OFFICIAL source at the Municipal Affairs Committee stated that the technical committee formed by the municipal committee is currently conducting a study on the feasibility of giving permission towards temporary use of commercial or investment plots in case their owners could not build on them right away.

The source added that the committee is also studying the proposal presented by one of the members in preparing an inventory of residential plots, and government owned houses at private residential areas for a public auction.

The committee is also studying the possibility of distributing limited income houses located at commercial streets and the establishing of a fire fighting centre to serve Mishrif, Bayan and Sabah Al Salem areas.



Air France seminar

Air France's new regional manager in Kuwait, Jacques Chenut, recently welcomed travel agents during a three-day seminar held at the Meridien, Kuwait. Above: Chenut (centre) with sales team Ossama Abdou, Katya Jabbour, Marlene Chamaa and Hashim Suleiman.

Heart disease on the increase

CONSULTANT of Internal and Heart Diseases at Sabah Hospital, Doctor Husam Al Amad stressed that there is a strong relation between the hardening of coronary arteries which leads to heart attacks and three main factors. He said that these factors are namely, smoking, high blood pressure and the level of cholesterol in the blood.

He added other factors leading to the hardening of coronary arteries include over weight, stress, lack of physical activity and other hereditary factors.

Interviewed by a local daily he stressed that despite the fact that heart diseases is considered to be on the rise, they can be drastically reduced by staying away from smoking and paying more attention to good food habits, avoiding fats and decreasing the amount of salt in cooking.

He stated that medical statistics proved that a 1 per cent increase in blood cholesterol leads to a 2 per cent increase in the rate of coronary arteries dis-

eases. He pointed out fifty per cent of heart attack patients have high blood cholesterol rates. He said that the best way to decrease the rate of cholesterol in blood was through exercise, losing weight and avoiding smoking.

He indicated that olive oil has an opposite effect on the rate of coronary heart diseases. He advised eating vegetable oil, vegetables and fruits. In addition he said that having fish will decrease the rate of cholesterol in blood. He pointed out that the rate of death among coronary heart patients decreases fifty per cent for patients taking at least 30 grams of fish daily.

On the other hand, doctor Amad indicated that females using contraceptive pills are liable to have higher possibility of having coronary arteries diseases. He added that the new types of birth control pills are less dangerous than those used by females in the past. He stressed that smoking increases the harmful effect of contraceptives in women.

Search on for Ms Filcheck 90-91

THE search is on for "Ms Filcheck 90-91" from amongst the muses of the teams that will compete in this year's Inter-Commercial Chess Tournament organised by the Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck).

The selection will be conducted in two parts: beauty and poise (50 per cent) and talent (50 per cent). A team is allowed to field a maximum of three muses as its candidates till Thursday, June 7, 1990.

The first phase will be during the opening ceremony of the forthcoming tournament on Friday, June 8 in connection with the civic parade at the Messiah Beach Club as part of the "Pistang Pinoy" — a fun-filled whole day pre-Independence Day celebration being organised by the Philippine Embassy. The second phase and the awarding ceremony, will be conducted during the "Dine with the Stars" night at the new Kabayan Restaurant on Saturday, June 9, 1990. Expected to grace the occasion are the stars and organisers of the Musical Extravaganza spearheaded by Nanette Inventor, Regine Velasquez and Raymond Lauchenco. The group will be performing at the Ice Skating Rink on Friday and Sunday, June 8 and 10, 1990.

Meanwhile, preparations are in full gear for Filcheck's activities set forth on Friday, June 8, in conjunction with this year's Independence Day celebration.

At 9:30 am, the club will hold the Rakan Chess Blitz — a one-day tournament which will feature five-minute chess blitz games using the "Two-Lost-Out" system. The top three finishers for both groups (Rated A & B) will receive a trophy and valuable gift items donated by Mahmoud Younis Al Mesad, Managing Director of Rakan Electronics Co., distributor of Rakan Video Home Computers.

As an added attraction to the event, the club will feature the "Beat Kasparov and Win a prize" Contest by Adawilah Universal Electronics. Here's a chance for all Filipino chess lovers, male or female, children and adults to try their wits against a Kasparov chess computer. Valuable prizes await the lucky winners of each category.

In the meantime, seven teams finally completed their line-up to beat the June 1 deadline for submission of entries in this year's Inter-Commercial Chess Tournament. With the Filcheck rating system in force i.e., rated A players are to play on boards 1 and 2 and rated B for boards 3 and 4, each team now has an even chance of winning the championship.

The complete team line-ups are as follows:

I — JM International: Manager, Jun Mercado; captain, Arnel Matutino; muses, Juliet Costudio and Angelle Arigo. Players: Board No. 1, Arnel Matutino; No. 2, Ariel Martinez; alternate, Wahab Alamada; board No. 3, Nonoy Caro, No. 4, Ed Madala; alternate, Jun Mercado.

II — Far East Bank/City Int'l Exch: Manager, Melo Calzado; captain, Thony Moore; muses, Rosale Austria. Players: Board No. 1, Thony Moore; No. 2, Ver Ferrales; alternate, Rolly Boado; board No. 3, Jigs Acodisen; No. 4, Fred Mansigan; alternate, Silver Salgado.

III — Hatid-Ligaya Door-to-Door: Manager, Sarah Macarimbang; captain, Rading Moje; muses, Milagros Andrada, Ellen Monrold and Rose Cabertja. Players: Board No. 1, Mon Cortado, No. 2 Rading Moje; alternate, Jess Beaguen; board No. 3, Nilo Magtanggob, No. 4, Dads Patas; alternate, Jun Alejandro.

IV — Al Nuzha Garage: Manager, Engr. Tamhas Sulaiman; captain, Ali Maca-ayan; muses, nil. Players: Board No. 1, Ilogy Vendiola, No. 2, Danny Calasin; alternate, Ali Mac-ayan; board No. 3, Fred de Nieva, No. 4, Diony Bartolome; alternate, Felix Sillo.

V — Kirby Bldg. Systems: Manager, Johnny Diamante; captain, Rene Mostreal; muses, nil. Players: Board No. 1, Niel Dumalao, No. 2, Edwin Borigas; alternate, Rene Mostreal; board No. 3, Manny Baner; No. 4, Jun Aranas; alternate, Robert Espera.

VI — Al Rashed Freight: Manager, Rioo Pino; captain, Chito Barrios; muses, nil. Players: Board No. 1, Nanding Policarpio; No. 2, Robert Vargas; alternate, Chito Barrios; board No. 3, B. de los Reyes; No. 4, Hernie Corpuz; alternate, Vic Paciones.

VII — Kabayan Restaurant: Manager, Rory Aureliano; captain, Sammy Aureliano; muses, Daphne Epadilla. Players: Board No. 1, Jun Pacana; board No. 2, Sammy Aureliano; alternate, Teddy Lagnay; board No. 3, Gil Opiana Jr.; board No. 4, Ely Nacional; alternate, Benjie Amansec.

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EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A PROPHET is not without honour, save in his own country and in his own house — The Bible.

1st Algerian free polls Independents wooing voters

CONSTANTINE, Algeria. (Reuter): Independent candidates in Algeria's first free elections are appealing to civic pride in Constantine, reminding voters of the city's past 23 centuries of grandeur and its recent decline.

Nationwide, independents constitute the second largest group of candidates for the June 12 municipal and provincial elections after the ruling National Liberation Front (FLN).

In Constantine, capital of the Algerian east, four of the nine groups competing are independents with names like "Free Youth," "The Constantine Challenge" and "Progress and Solidarity."

All claim to be independent of political parties and to offer competence above ideology. They hope to appeal to an electorate still largely sceptical of newly-legal political parties.

Proposals

Proposals from "Constantine Challenge" to revitalise the city of half a million people range from reviving old cinemas to attracting foreign and national investment.

"People are over-politicising the municipal elections," said Souad Bendjaballah, a 37-year-old teacher who is one of the few women near the top of the "Constantine Challenge" list.

"We hope merely to offer a credible team, citizens who belong to no political party able to run the city efficiently."

Algeria has legalised 21 opposition parties since embracing multiparty democracy last year, an alphabet soup of acronyms representing ideologies from Islamic fundamentalism to Trotskyite socialism.

Two of the opposition parties are competing to unseat the FLN from local councils after 27 years of one-party rule.

"There are too many parties. Most of them have no social or ideological base, they are simply political opportunists. Opinion is too divided," said 35-year-old Abdelhamid Ben Hamla, spokesman of the "Free Youth."

Dynamic

Despite limited means, the independents appear the most dynamic campaigners in Constantine, handing out leaflets in cafes, shops and streets in this historic city perched on a rock in the Algerian heartland.

Many independent lists were born of frustration with the lack of viable alternatives to the two giants that dominate the campaign — the FLN and its main rival, the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS).

They wonder if local problems like water and housing are not getting lost in the fierce ideological debate between the FIS and the FLN over the relation between state and religion.

"When Constantine gets low on water, the leaders of both the FLN and the FIS find their faucets dry," said Ahmed Benyahia, candidate for a list called "Solidarity, Seriousness and Work."

Benyahia's aspiration to represent all segments of Algerian society there are few fundamentalists on independent lists and FIS spokesman, Abbas Madani has denounced them as FLN supporters in disguise.

While most independents in Constantine appear to be just that, others are clearly FLN members or supporters who were not able to get on their lists.

"There are some FLN activists who believe they deserved a place on our lists and when we didn't pick them they weren't happy and they joined independent lists. We have no problem with them and we wish them success," said Noureddine Djelloul, the FLN co-ordinator in Constantine.

Affiliation

Ben Hamla does not hide his affiliation with the FLN and its youth league, the National Union of Algerian Youth (UNJA). His list includes a number of young activists of the UNJA and the FLN-linked national trade union, the General Union of Algerian Workers.

They complain that lack of democracy within the FLN prevents aspiring youth from climbing its ranks and acceding to positions of responsibility.

"There is a disparity between the policies of the FLN and its structures. They are not yet adapted to the new (democratic) situation," Ben Hamla said.

He is adamantly opposed to the FIS and hopes his list will help block it from gaining a foothold in the councils.

The independents are entitled to 20,000 dinars (\$2,500) in state aid per list but the money has been slow in coming. Candidate contributions give most groups a shoestring budget.

Ben Hamla vows if elected to seek state aid to revive the depressed local economy through industries controlled by the province.

Many independents feel their biggest asset is not a platform but the reputation of their candidates, generally teachers, administrators, doctors and other high-profile professionals.

"In the end of the day people are not going to vote for a programme but for individuals," said Bendjaballah.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1621 — Dutch West India Company receives charter for New Netherlands — now New York.

1647 — Oliver Cromwell flees from Parliament to the army in England.

1818 — Bajo Rio, Peshwa of Poona in India, and his dominions come under British control in Bombay presidency.

1896 — Treaty is signed in Moscow whereby China and Russia form defensive alliance for 15 years, and China grants Russia right to operate railway in northern Manchuria.

1917 — Albanian independence under Italian protection is proclaimed.

1937 — Britain's Duke of Windsor marries Mrs Wallis Simpson of United States in France.

1940 — Allied evacuation from France is completed in World War II.

1942 — Japanese planes raid Dutch harbour, Alaska, in World War II.

1946 — South African Asiatic land tenure and Indian representation bill is passed.

1959 — Singapore becomes self-governing.

1966 — Peking's mayor Peng Chang, major political figure in China, is removed from office.

1973 — Soviet supersonic airliner crashes during international air show near Paris, killing the six crewmen and seven French villagers.

1976 — Bolivia's former president Juan Jose Torres is found murdered in Argentina.

1984 — Punjab comes under virtual martial law as army troops seal off India's troubled state and prepare to flush out Sikh terrorists.

1988 — US president Ronald Reagan says summit meetings with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev have started to "take down the barriers" of the cold war.

1989 — Chinese troops storm Tiananmen Square in clash that kills at least 13 people and injures more than 100 others.

1997 looms on the horizon

Exodus: visible act in Hong Kong

HONG KONG. (AP): The sleek elevator at the Exchange Square office tower begins its ascent with yet another group of people who hope the short ride up is the start of a journey leading out.

"Twelve," a disembodied voice announces as the doors slide open. The passengers step out, turn and stride through the double glass doors of the consulate, where an inviting sign says: Canada welcomes immigrants.

"The main point is 1997: we want some insurance," said a 40-year-old mechanical engineer who came with his wife and two children to pick up an immigration form. That is the year Britain hands Hong Kong back to China.

A year after horrified residents of the crown colony watched their communist rulers-to-be crush the democracy movement in Beijing with military force, the desire to escape Hong Kong's uncertain future shows no sign of abating.

The exodus is the most visible sign that the fabric of Hong Kong society is unravelling in the aftermath of June 4, 1989, and the approach of 1997.

There is a growing feeling that one of the world's great economic success stories may be nearing its end. Forecasts for this territory of 5.7 million people have taken a turn for the worse.

Massacre

"After the fourth of June massacre, China has not done anything at all to try to restore the confidence in Hong Kong," said Martin Lee, a liberal member of the legislature. "I think what the Chinese leaders have done has been pretty destructive of any hope of a bright future here."

Those actions include strident denunciations of Hong Kong's support for the Beijing pro-democracy movement and the arrests in China of Hong Kong residents accused of smuggling dissidents out.

China's new constitution for post-1997 Hong Kong also causes worry. Critics claim an anti-subversion clause and a provision allowing Beijing to declare a state of emergency in Hong Kong could be used to muzzle dissent.

The constitution is supposed to guarantee Hong Kong can maintain capitalism for 50 years and enjoy a "high degree of autonomy," but it does not provide for a popularly elected chief executive or a fully elected legislature.

Bickering over Hong Kong between Beijing and London has been unsettling. China has objected to a British nationality plan under which 50,000 important Hong Kong residents and their families would be offered citizenship.

Beijing has indicated it may not recognise foreign passports held by Hong Kong Chinese, who make up most of the population. Analysts say China is trying to scare away anyone who could be considered a troublemaker.

Among those leaving are many of the bright, generally apolitical middle-class who have helped make Hong Kong one of Asia's economically powerful "little dragons."

They include Poon, 40, who spent two decades



The crackdown... APC's rolling into Tiananmen Square. (Reuter wirephoto)

reaching the top in the insurance industry and is giving it up in August to take his wife and young daughter to Vancouver, Canada.

"I think everyone in Hong Kong can be sure our freedom will be restrained," said Poon, who asked to be identified only by his surname. "My decision to leave Hong Kong is solely because of 1997."

The Poon's will be among about 55,000 emigrating this year, up from an average 20,000 a few years ago.

"We expect this to continue right up to 1997," said Colin Robertson of the Canadian consulate, which issued 22,130 immigration visas last year.

Hong Kong's Immigration Department also issued 1,647 permits allowing residents to take the remains of deceased relatives with them, more than double the 1985 figure.

Some emigrants leave behind aging parents or the mentally retarded, said Dr Leonard Lee, a psychiatrist at Queen Mary's Hospital.

"They were using us as a dumping place in some of the cases," he said. Some of the abandoned elderly have attempted suicide or turned to alcohol and drugs.

A Western analyst, speaking anonymously, said the brain drain could make Hong Kong "less efficient in the way it carries out business, the way it governs itself and the way it maintains order."

That is a chilling prospect for Hong Kong, which sees itself as the model of efficiency in this part of the world.

A survey of government doctors last fall found that 40 per cent had applied for emigration and many more were considering it.

"Certainly we are very worried," said Dr Ho Shiu-Wei of the 1,100-member government doctors' association. "We can see that there will be a drop in the level of experience."

Ho said patients may have to wait longer for care and "we're very afraid that even if we can keep the doctors, there will be no nurses around... It's very easy for them to emigrate."

More than half the 49 multinational corporations that responded to a survey by Business International, a consulting firm, said they might move their regional offices from Hong Kong.

Persistent high inflation and a dramatic slowing of economic growth have exacerbated the political crisis.

After back-to-back annual growth of 14 and seven per cent, Hong Kong's gross domestic product rose only 2.5 per cent last year and is not expected to do much better in 1990.

There are fears that labour relations will deteriorate. Bus drivers and firemen struck recently. Nurses and civil servants have threatened to do so.

Holding the territory together until 1997 is the job of a colonial administration some observers believe may be forced to leave early.

Letters to the editor

Hijab women

SIR: I'm writing to comment on a problem that has been, and is, very prevalent here in Kuwait, that being the practice of many (actually most) private companies, schools and shops of refusing to hire women who wear hijab.

I have not only heard people complaining often of this problem but also have experienced it first hand, and I find myself unable to remain silent on this issue anymore.

It is the height of hypocrisy, inequity, and uncivilisation for owners and operators of such businesses to have such a policy.

The most disgusting thing of all is that around 99 per cent of all the said owners and operators are Muslim themselves. Obviously, that shows that they are ashamed of their religion and their heritage, and are blatantly acting in direct contradiction of God's orders; either that, or they are so ignorant to believe that the trade they make is worthwhile (thinking that their business will be better if they employ made-up hijabless women).

I would like to know why none of the hotels in Kuwait will hire anyone who wears hijab except if she is behind closed doors (such as telephone operators, etc.), except for the Kuwait Airport Hotel, which I commend highly for taking on an Islamic view, at least from that aspect, in that situation.

Mia Pouzo,

Safat.

PAC veterans

SIR: This has a reference to an announcement by the so-called PAC's veterans (A/T — What's Oo column).

The executive committee of the PAC in its 19th meeting held May 28, 1990, took a serious view and believe that these so-called veterans are envious of PAC's popularity and are trying to spoil our relations with our valuable patrons.

The 25 years record that we are holding has no such names and warns the culprits to abstain themselves from such activities or they will face the legal consequences.

We request all our well-wishers to condemn these veterans; rather self-made for whom we will give further details soon.

Hamid Mahmoud,

Secretary, Public Relations,

Khalidiya.

Boycott flights

SIR: Air-India is always spreading the protection blanket of IATA over its head and looting the Gulf passengers for the last few years. According to a British-based survey the worst serving airline in the travel world is Air-India. It is not an imaginary tell-tale story but an emphasized fact.

The Indian community — especially Keralites of all passengers are the losers in all basis. Organizational level memorandums, representations to the concerned authorities are flown in the air and senseless fare hikes are introduced by AI, still continuing their process of butchery. Fifty per cent of the expatriates in Kuwait are low paid and surviving group of working class are sufferers. Nearly 5 months' salary is not enough for a journey.

If we check the balance sheet of AI, the major profits are bagged from Gulf passengers' pockets and the Maharaja is well and happy sucking the blood of Gulf passengers.

Dear passengers, it is now time to react on a random basis to boycott AI flights during this season. Let us check, can the Maharaja rethink and normalise the fare to destination in a reasonable way?

All of us are well aware of the fares and there is no need to explain by an analysis. Let us demand AI to reinstate the discount formalities as usual and also to compel them to give hotel accommodation for the Gulf transit passengers as before.

Our dream Trivandrum an international airport cannot be fulfilled because hotel lobbies are behind AI, or authorities to do so. The past few months we got assurance or a chance to hope the centre rules can implement our premature demand but now that has also vanished.

AI authorities' negligence towards our repetitive requests are to be recalled only if we boycott them and find passage to destinations with other carriers which we can feel cheap and best.

Devadas Pappinisseri,

Safat.

Please clarify

SIR: With further reference to the published letter of the undersecretary of the ministry — Abdul Rahman Youssef Al Mazroui, in the Day by Day column, I would like to query certain points. It is vitally important that employers are notified as soon as possible that firms will be affected by this employee guarantee — "certain categories" is no help at all when small businesses are trying to budget for the next financial year, and on this point, why could we not have been informed of this impending law a few months in advance. It is unfair of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour to place this extra burden on employers, who are trying to do a good job for the benefit of the economy in Kuwait in this heavy handed way.

Please for the benefit of all concerned, think the whole law out clearly, and then publish it in detail for the benefit of all those parties concerned. Your wisdom in dealing with this matter is urgently needed.

V. Al Mutawa,

Sunshine School,

Salwa.

Rectify situation

SIR: A great number of Asians, skilled and non-skilled, work outside of their own countries. This trend of exporting human work-force by several Asian countries in the post-independence era has been a bad inception in the economic determinants in an evolving global market dynamics in which the "haves" in the world economy wanted the surplus labour of the "have-nots."

In this process of simplistic market activity no one did any specific favours to anyone: the "haves" got what they were lacking, namely the workforce to do their industrial and non-industrial chores, and the "have-nots" shared the financial benefits as the industrial reconstruction and a modern technological civilisation got off the ground. No one seemed to be a loser; in fact, there are good reasons to believe that there have been substantial gains on both sides. This process of exchange of labour for monetary gains has taken place in the West since after the Second World War, and in the Gulf Arab states since the oil-boom started in the sixties.

Now several years down the road, this simpli-

phenomenon of exchange of human resources for payments rendered for services is not that simple anymore. Complex humanistic and sociological scenarios have emerged as the guest labour force in alien countries comes into an extended time duration contact with various local populations. In this respect, a steep rise in racism has been observed throughout these diverse mixed societies.

Another phenomenon widely observed is the crisis of identity, both for the guest workers and the host societies. Psychological ramifications of distancing oneself from family and familiar social-cultural and physical surroundings have been known to have explicit bearings on the physical as well as intellectual growth. The break-up of the social structure of family (father or mother being away) seems to have raised new elements, largely considered unhealthy, in the over-seas workers' native countries.

Not many workers participate in their native countries' national reconstruction processes, and the majority of the Asian countries have not offered any planning to absorb the returning labour force into a substantially planned commercial and industrial economy. Things seem to be moving in a haphazard manner. A slight change in the economic policies of a guest country has catastrophic effects for the overseas workers.

All of the above-mentioned elements are part of a complex problematic scenario involving socio-cultural-psychological phenomena and a lack of versatile economic planning.

Joint community actions need to be taken in several other areas. Many Asian expatriates claim that their national priorities have been taking price-bike decisions contrary to their general economic well-being. They say that the decision-makers in their native countries have been less than sympathetic to the expatriates' concerns, and do not seek constructive input in decision-making from these large communities living overseas. They contend that millions of workers travel each year making it possible for the national airlines and several other carriers to survive and make huge profits; and yet, they say they get the minimum benefits and the least possible courtesies are extended to them. They seem to think of themselves as victims of unprecedented inhuman attitudes sadly directed against them, no matter where they are.

A travel agent recently suggested that boycott of certain airlines by all expatriate communities for a single summer could cause a magical turnaround in the delivery of services to the customers. And what about the immigration and custom officials? There is an overall need of improvement in the conduct of these officials everywhere.

It is good to know that mostly all of the Asian overseas communities are quite zealously involved in conducting cultural activities. On the other hand, haven't they been a little too careless in doing the things that truly matter? Time does not wait for anybody or anything: soon the seemingly minor matters would blow into unmanageable phenomena. Small mistakes made now would certainly have catastrophic impacts in the near future. But by then, it would already be too late to reverse the harm done.

Dr Haider Mehdi,

Shawwaikh.

ALL Letters in the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Summit

US, Soviets considering new pacts

WASHINGTON. (Reuter): The United States and the Soviet Union, about to sign an unprecedented treaty slashing long-range nuclear missiles, are considering new accords that would change their very reliance on atomic weapons.

US President George Bush and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev were due to sign a preliminary agreement on Friday that clears away major obstacles to a formal Strategic Arms Reduction Talks (Start) treaty due to be concluded later this year.

The treaty, in negotiation for eight years, would be the first of the atomic age to force cuts in the world's most lethal arms, leaving each side with 9,000 to 10,000 weapons.

Debate

The two leaders on the second day of their summit were also to make a formal commitment to follow-on negotiations on a Start 2 pact that could reduce superpower stockpiles even further and force serious debate about possible curbs on British, French and maybe even Chinese nuclear forces.

Such a treaty will be "more important and much harder" to attain than the initial Start accord, predicted Tyrus Cobb, who was US former president Ronald Reagan's National Security Council staff.

So far, Washington has successfully protected the British and the French, two allies with an estimated 1,000 atomic arms each, from US-Soviet negotiations on nuclear weapons.

But as the huge superpower stockpiles are whittled away, the smaller arsenals controlled by London, Paris, and even Beijing, take on more importance.

"We would not want to have these third parties included in the negotiations but I think the Soviets are going to want to draw them in, particularly the British and the French," Cobb said in an interview.

Undermine

A Start 2 agreement would force world leaders to consider how little is enough — "how much to cut nuclear forces before they undermine, rather than improve, international stability," said Michael Mandelbaum of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Start 1 would slash the United States and Soviet Union's nuclear arsenals by 50 per cent in case the new era of good relations turns sour. Each side has so many weapons, they fear an attack from the other side and are deterred from launching a first strike.

US military leaders have argued that Start 1 level of 9,000-10,000 weapons is the minimum the United States needs to maintain peace.

While some have suggested a bottom line of 1,000 weapons on each side, most experts say that would be dangerous because at that reduced level, cheating would be easier and could have disastrous consequences.

Three thousand to 5,000 on each side is a minimum level, says a US defense official. A session of Washington's war-fighting strategy, experts say.

Ban

There is no serious discussion of a total nuclear ban.

"You can't disinvest nuclear weapons," Mandelbaum said. For the United States and the Soviet Union to do away totally with their arsenals "would give the advantage to the cheaters" and allow other countries who are trying to acquire nuclear capability to "become superpowers," he said.

Beyond bottom line numbers, Start 2 is expected to force more debate on the composition of the US and Soviet arsenals.

Washington succeeded in excluding limits on sea-launched cruise missiles from the Start 1 treaty, but Moscow, vulnerable to a huge US advantage in this category of arms, is expected to insist they be included in any future accord.

Moreover, the two sides are expected to bargain further over possible elimination of land-based missiles and multiple warheads that are viewed as especially destabilising.

All this is in the future.

While the way seems clear now to Start 1, the treaty is still not signed. And for the moment, experts say, there is little sign either US or Soviet officials have done serious planning on its successor.

QUOTE ME

"His re-election as president of the DPRK (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) is an expression of the unshakable will of our party and people to carry the cause of socialism to accomplishment and accomplish the historical cause of national reunification at an early date." — The North Korean central news agency on the re-election of Kim Il-Sung.

"The White House must take this report seriously... The White House will no longer be able to pick its favourite scientific sceptics as an excuse for not reducing US emissions." — Dan Lashoff said, adding that the United States is now virtually alone in refusing to take steps to deal with "greenhouse" gases.

"Censorship, like charity, should begin at home. But unlike charity, it should end there." — American diplomat, Clare Booth Luce.

"A pessimist is a person who has had to listen to too many optimists." — Humourist Don Marquis.

"When work is pleasant, life is a joy, when work is duty, life is slavery." — Russian author Maxim Gorky.

"A man without ambition is dead. A man with ambition and no love is dead. A man with ambition and love for his blessings is ever so alive." — Entertainer Pearl Bailey.

"The course of true love never did run smooth." — William Shakespeare.

"We are entering crucial decade of our struggle in which we hope to achieve complete victory. We have set up the comprehensive partisan machinery that will ensure sustained partisan warfare in the national capital region." — A statement by the Philippine communist rebels.

الانجليز

BUSINESS & FINANCE

36 firms declare dividends

Market turns mixed

THE Alshahi index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 39.47 points with an increase of 0.11 points - 0.28 per cent - over last week's average.

The Alshahi index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 53.58 points with an increase of 0.15 point - 0.28 per cent - for the same period, according to Alshahi weekly market review.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 18.33 million shares at a daily average of 3.67 million shares with a decrease of 3 per cent from previous week's daily average of 3.77 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 4.176 million shares at a daily average of 0.835 million shares with an increase of 143 per cent over last week's daily average of 0.344 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD6.80 million at a daily average of KD1.36 million, a decrease of 16 per cent from last week's daily average of KD1.62 million. The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD0.229 million at a daily average of KD0.046 million, an increase of 283 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.012 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the Banking Sector came first at 54 per cent of total trading against 48 per cent last week. The National Bank of Kuwait had the lead at 40 per cent, followed by the Gulf Bank at 27 per cent and the Bank of Kuwait & Middle East at 8 per cent. The Real Estate Sector came second at 15 per cent in which Pearl Kuwait Real Estate Company was the only traded share at 100 per cent. The Investment Sector came third at 14 per cent in which Coast Investment & Development Company had the lead at 47 per cent in which Kuwait Investment Projects Company at 35 per cent and International Financial Advisers (IFA) Company at 9 per cent. As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 76 per cent, followed by Sharjah Cement & Industrial Development Company at 18 per cent and Umm Al Qaiwain Cement Industries Company at 6 per cent.

The market gave signs of mixed activity inclined to the weak side in the Kuwaiti shares market which was reflected at the end of the week with very low levels of activity as compared to the beginning of it. While on Saturday the value of trading reached KD7.24 million it fell on Monday to reach KD0.48 million. This could be the result of the government's decision on Monday to transfer certain companies to the private sector through sealed tender bids.

The government has declared this resolution since 1986, however we believe that taking the recent decision without full details was wrong.

Thirty six companies have declared dividend distributions by the May 31, 1990 out of a total of 52 companies listed in the Kuwaiti Stock Exchange Market for the year ending in Dec 31, 1989. Thirty out of 44 in the Kuwaiti market, five out of six listed in the non-Kuwaiti market, and one out of two listed in the Parallel Market. This results in the percentage of 69 per cent of total listed companies and is higher than last year's percentage. Companies that distributed stock dividends in 1987 reached 27 per cent, this percentage increased in 1988 to 43 per cent which we consider to be wrong and decreased again in 1989 to approximately 26 per cent and is still in our opinion quite high.

—Base period 31/12/1983.

—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

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Al Ahli Bk	30.72	30.19	0.53
Bk of Kt & ME	30.12	30.12	—
Kuwait R. Est. Bk	28.43	28.43	—
Burgan Bk	26.44	26.22	0.22
Kt Finance House	82.62	81.72	0.90
Sector Index	48.58	48.30	0.28
Inv. Sector			
Kuwait Inv. Co.	11.57	10.65	0.92
Kt. Int. Inv. Co.	8.59	8.59	—
IFA	22.13	20.85	1.29
Comm. Facilities	160.33	160.33	—
National Inv.	53.92	53.92	—
Kt. Inv. Proj.	82.02	83.15	-1.12
Coast Inv. & Dev.	84.71	84.71	—
Sector Index	32.41	32.02	0.39
Ins. Sector			
Kt. Ins. Co.	32.29	32.29	—
Gulf Ins. Co.	23.08	25.38	-2.31
Al Ahlia Ins.	53.38	53.38	—
Warba Ins. Co.	47.25	47.25	—
Sector Index	34.08	34.68	-0.60
Real Est. Sec.			
Kt. Real Est.	10.58	10.58	—
Utd. Realty	4.91	4.91	—
Nat. Real Est.	39.42	39.42	—
Pearl of Kt.	61.90	67.46	-5.56
Sector Index	14.59	14.91	-0.32
Ind. Sector			
Kt. Cmt. Co.	11.32	10.63	0.68
Ref. Ind.	81.26	81.26	—
Gulf Cables	112.00	112.00	—
Kt. Pharm.	53.33	53.33	—
Sector Index	29.38	28.55	0.83
Services Sector			
Kt. Cmpt. Co.	131.76	131.76	—
Kt. Cinema Co.	7.80	7.80	—
Pub. Whousg Co.	50.51	51.52	-1.01
Kt. Comm. M. Co.	35.45	35.45	—
M. Tele. Syst.	355.00	350.00	5.00
Sector Index	57.18	58.88	-0.30
Food Sector			
L. Trad. & Transp.	24.41	25.63	-1.22
Utd Fisheries	11.05	11.05	—
Kt. Utd Poultry	110.01	110.01	—
Kt. Food Co.	68.97	68.97	—
Sector Index	36.88	37.33	-0.45
Overall Index	39.47	39.36	0.11

Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

Wed.	Wed.	Change
30/05/90	23/05/90	points
First G. Bk.	263.16	263.16
Bah. Intl. Bk.	84.14	84.14
Bah. M.E. Bk.	84.47	84.47
A. Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	44.70	44.70
Umm Al Q. Cmt.	15.38	16.12
Sharjah Cement*	20.01	19.01
G. Med. Projs.	13.13	13.13
Total Index	53.58	53.43

—Base period 31/12/1983.

—All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

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Joint venture proposals awaiting a go-ahead

Kuwait, Moscow to sign accord

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

SEVERAL Kuwaiti-Soviet joint venture proposals are awaiting a go-ahead as the two countries prepare to sign an agreement for the protection of investments largely viewed by Kuwaitis as a safety net for their capital in an unexplored market.

Lured by opportunities presented in Eastern Europe and keen on diversifying its overseas investments now concentrated in the West, Kuwait has over the past three years declared its aim to channel some of its capital into the emerging market economies in the Eastern block. But it is proceeding cautiously as it evaluates the pros and cons in the face of political and social upheaval there.

The agreement, Kuwait has signed routinely with dozens of countries, will bear special significance when it is concluded later this year with Moscow because it will offer the necessary guarantees for first Kuwaiti investments in the Soviet economy that is undergoing radical reforms.

A Kuwait Investment Authority team is going to Moscow later this month for the second round of talks before signing the accord either this month or in Kuwait next October, the Soviet Commercial Counsellor in Kuwait, Oleg Lazarev has said.

While it will bring a measure of security to Kuwait investors the agreement will also mark a step forward in efforts spearheaded by Moscow to boost economic exchange with Kuwait and attract the much-needed capital to modernise its industry. Last year 65 Soviet delegations, representing the government, and individual enterprises, visited Kuwait — a ten-fold increase from the previous year. With the new measure to speed up perestroika in the Soviet Union its companies are more actively seeking overseas business. In the first three months of this year 25 Soviet teams visited Kuwait.

The results are encouraging. Last month Kuwait offered Moscow \$300 million in credit facilities. A whole series of new export contracts have been signed and a score of joint venture projects are awaiting approval.

Among the most ambitious joint venture schemes is the one that includes a youth complex in Leningrad, two hotels in Moscow and a hotel in Sochi on the Black Sea. The project is a tripartite venture with a group of Kuwaiti companies scheduled to provide the capital and the architectural drawings, a European firm the management, while the Soviets would do the construction work.

The Kuwaitis have also signed an agreement of intent for a hotel project and accompanying sport and conference facilities in Donetsk in Ukraine.

More progress has been made in the field of joint oil and gas exploration. Kufpec, Kuwaiti overseas oil exploration company, has selected a field in Awdan depression in the Soviet Republic of Turkmenistan for further study before it starts drilling while the Soviet — Kuwaiti team might drill for oil in Kuwait's Low Fars area. Although both countries are capable of prospecting on their own the Soviets believe that a joint operation could reduce costs and lead to contracts in third countries.

The Soviet firm Machina Import which will complete in November a \$60.5 million desalting plant for the Kuwait Oil Company will bid for contracts to carry out the phase four of the same project.

In other areas last year the Soviets signed a contract with Kuwait's Al Omar Technical Company for the delivery of machine tools for this year and 1991.

The Soviet Foreign Trade Association Stanco Import are also looking for a joint venture partner for machine and equipment production. Another Soviet organisation is currently negotiating with a Kuwaiti construction firm to form a joint venture com-

pany for the use, renting and selling of road building machines, according to the Soviet commercial attaché George Grynnevsky.

Lada cars, that were absent from the Gulf market for a year after the Gulf organisation for certification barred Lada imports, will be back on the market this month. The first consignment of 850 cars is shortly due in Kuwait. The Soviets are also using Kuwait as a regional distribution centre for the Lada trucks. After the first delivery of 100 Kamza trucks at the end of last year new contracts have been signed for this year. The Soviets are also launching a new 50-tonne truck in Kuwait and commercial deliveries are expected after the current testing of four vehicles. They are also seeking to set up a transport company with Kuwait which will operate a fleet of Soviet-made trucks in Kuwait and throughout the Middle East.

The imports of construction material such as flats, bars and angles are on the increase and the Soviets hope to double the sales of galvanised pipes which last year reached \$3 million. There too a capital investment to modernise the production plant in the Soviet Union would be welcome, say the Soviet diplomats.

Away from heavy machinery the Soviet Health Ministry signed last week an agreement with a Kuwaiti private hospital according to which two Soviet specialists will be assigned to the Hadi Clinic to become the first Soviet doctors in Kuwait. More may follow said Dr V. Korjagin of the Ministry of Health in the USSR.

Lazarev said his countrymen are not daunted by stiff competition and look at the Kuwaiti market as an arena where Soviet enterprises can also test their strengths against each other.

This could happen when they put their bids in for the construction of the Subiya — Failaka water pipeline, now in the pre-qualification stages.

Call for private sector involvement in Arab oil industry

KUWAIT, June 2, (AP) The Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries said today that it was high time for the private sector to play a larger role in the Arab oil industry, drawing on the experience of American companies over the past few decades and world economic changes.

The growing petroleum industry in Opec member countries offers enormous potential for private sector investment, the Kuwait-based organisation said in the editorial of the June issue of its monthly bulletin.

"The numerous branches of engineering and sophisticated technology used in the oil industry provide unlimited opportunities for enterprising investors," the editorial said.

"Moreover, the current wind of changes blowing

in the Arab and world economy is the best guarantee for private sector investment because the role of official institutions has become one of guidance rather than central planning and control."

Opec groups 11 Arab oil-exporting nations, among whom are seven who double as members within the international organisation, the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

These sit on two-thirds of the world's proven oil reserves and are geared to multibillion-dollar expenditures over the coming years to develop their oil-producing potential.

Opec members co-ordinate on oil marketing policies but essentially seeks closer co-operation and integration in oil industry.

The bulletin said that private investments could take the form of small and medium-size businesses in prospecting, drilling, field installations, particularly the branches of engineering used in geo-physical exploration, and field services such as the application of enhanced oil recovery techniques.

"The activities of companies that have emerged in the oil producing states of the United States in the last few decades provide numerous ideas for Arab entrepreneurs who have spent the earlier part of their careers with operating oil companies and have the ambition and drive to branch out on their own," the bulletin said.

Opec also said that potential private sector investments exist in the Arab refining and petrochemical industries.



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BUSINESS

American economy still slowing down

ECONOMIC indicators this week largely confirmed sluggish activity in the US economy with a decline in home sales, greater than expected fall in factory orders and a reduction in the new jobs created. Leading indicators forecast changes in activity in the forthcoming six to nine months with seven of the eleven main components declining, according to NBK weekly market review.

The dollar's earlier gains in the week were entirely eroded on the employment data with the US unit finishing virtually unchanged at DM1.68 and Yen 150.9.

Although the unemployment figure was slightly better than expected other economic data, particularly the non-farm payroll, confirmed a continuing moderation in activity.

Once again we reiterate that although the economy is still slowing down we do not anticipate that the Federal Reserve will make any change in their monetary stance for the time being. Longer term, however, some easing is likely to prove necessary if the sluggishness increases.

With a distinct lack of fresh factors in the near future, the dollar is likely to continue to trade within a narrow technical range whilst benefiting from current uncertainties in Europe as well as its own safe-haven status.

Trading ranges for the coming week are forecast to be as follows: DM1.67-1.71 and Yen 149-153.

Following the chancellor, John Major's speech which ruled out early entry into the European Monetary System, the pound adopted a softer undertone.

The small rise in output-based GDP growth in the first quarter of this year confirmed that the economy is slowing down despite good performances in the service and manufacturing sectors.

However sterling ended the week little changed at £/S1.69 and £/DM2.84.

John Major stated that it was "clear that policy must remain tight for sometime" and warned once again that a further rise in interest rates should still not be ruled out as the battle against inflationary pressures continues.

US stocks set new record

NEW YORK, June 2, (Reuters): Stock prices on Wall Street rose sharply on Friday on a growing belief that interest rates are coming down, sending the Dow Jones industrial average crashing through the 2,900 barrier for the first time ever.

The 30-share Dow average ended up a strong 24.31 points, or 0.85 per cent, at 2,900.97, after trading just points below the key century mark for much of the day.

The market was jolted by a surprisingly weak US unemployment report, which convinced Wall Street that the Federal Reserve would have to lower interest rates in order to keep the economy from sinking into a recession.

The bullish mood pushed the benchmark Standard and Poor's 500 index into record territory in close up 1.93 at 363.16. The index touched a record high on Tuesday for the first time in seven months.

Gains outpaced losses by 974-570 in the broader market, with volume a hefty 187.8 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange, compared with 165.7 million on Thursday.

Record profit

JAPAN AIRLINES had achieved a record operating profit of \$49.5 million in the financial year end March 31, 1990 an increase of 1.7 per cent of the year before.

For the first time in JAL's sales revenue topped \$670 million.

Moscow opens commodities exchange in move towards market system

MOSCOW, June 2, (Reuters): The city of Moscow, now controlled by radicals, has formed a rudimentary commodities exchange as the first step towards a market economy.

The exchange was created in an attempt to improve the distribution of desperately-needed goods, such as construction materials and high-technology equipment, the city's mayor told a news conference today.

It is a precursor to dismantling the centralised economic system, which officials say has taken the city to the brink of collapse.

"We have two enemies to creating a market economy," said Mayor Gavril Popov, a respected reform economist. "One is the shadow economy, and the other is the administrative system that rules our centralised economy. A commodities exchange will strike a blow to both."

The commodities exchange is the first illustration of reforms promised under the city's new leadership, elected in

March. It is designed to serve as a middleman, bringing buyers and sellers together outside the constructions of the centrally-planned "commod-admistrative" system.

Critics say the poor distribution of goods and materials is among the most glaring weak points of the Soviet economy.

Popov, who is also a leading national figure, has vowed the city will stand in the vanguard of democratic change — even if it means colliding with the Kremlin.

Asked if the central authorities would disapprove of the commodities exchange Popov replied: "Well, let's put it this way — no one is asking their permission."

Moscow city officials, far more radical than the reformers brought to power under Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, have pledged to create their own approach to rescuing the ailing economy.

The officials, along with populist Boris Yeltsin, elected president of the powerful Russian federation this week, have rejected

the government's latest plan to turn the country's moribund economy into a market system.

A central element of the plan is an enormous rise in prices, including the cost of bread, a commodity that has been kept at artificially low prices for decades by government subsidies.

Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov's report on the economic plan two weeks ago sparked panic buying and a wave of strike threats.

The new Moscow City Council, however, has gained extensive popular support by promising to repair roads and to make housing available in a city where several families typically live together in small flats.

The commodities exchange is the city's first attempt to make scarce goods, such as computers and construction materials used to repair roads, more readily available.

The exchange is operating as a Soviet-Italian-Yugoslav joint venture but involves only Soviet firms. Officials said

foreign concerns would be invited to participate in the future.

Byelorussia became the second large Soviet republic to reject the central government's plan for price hikes Friday, providing further evidence Mikhail Gorbachev's economic reform programme may be doomed.

The parliament in Minsk, capital of the republic of 10 million people, rejected "any decisions to increase state retail prices without offering corresponding compensation and social protection to the population or without a nation-wide discussion of these issues," the official Tass news agency said.

The Ukraine, the second largest republic in the Soviet Union with 51.2 million people, rejected the planned price increases almost immediately after they were officially introduced by Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov in parliament last week as a key part of the move toward a market economy.

Boris Yeltsin, the new leader of the huge Russian republic, has also criticised

the plan for price increases and indicated Russia may also refuse to implement them.

The announcement of the transition to a "regulated market economy" in stages including price hikes to take effect beginning July 1 sparked panic buying in many Soviet cities.

The Byelorussian resolution cites "the worsening situation on the consumer market caused by panic buying" and says deputies were "seriously alarmed by the possible drop in living standards."

Because of the panic buying, the Moscow city government imposed temporary rationing and restricted purchases to those who show passports with local residency stamps, angering people from outside the capital. An estimated one million visitors shop in Moscow daily.

Several regions have halted food shipments to the capital in retaliation for the restrictions on who may buy goods in Moscow, the newspaper Kommolskaya Pravda said.

Wall Street watch

Mutual funds rev up market rally

Assets jump

NEW YORK, June 2, (AP): As they tally their profits from the stock market's upsurge to record highs over the past five weeks, many stock-market investors acknowledge a debt of gratitude to mutual funds.

Funds that invest in stocks have brimmed over lately with new money from investors virtually forcing them to step up their buying in the marketplace.

An awareness of that development seems to have increased other traders' enthusiasm for stock at a time when many uncertainties persist about the

outlook for the economy. Indeed, to some observers, the resurgent popularity of stock funds hints at a positive change in the attitude of the public toward investing in the market.

"Individual investors again form a growing constituency for equities," says Greg Smith, strategist at Prudential-Bache Securities.

The mutual fund industry has been booming for years. Its total assets, around \$100 billion as the 1980s began, soared to the \$1 trillion mark by last

winter. Much of that growth, however, occurred in funds that put money to work in places other than stocks — money-market investments, for example, or treasury bonds or new vehicles on the financial scene like mortgage-backed securities.

Stock funds were generally thought to have reached and passed their peak as a stock market force during the "go-go" years of the 1960s, when some managers of high-risk funds temporarily achieved the status of cult

heroes. Today, most analysts agree, it's still far too soon to tell whether anything like a replay of that era is in store.

But for the past few months market analysts have been paying more and more attention to an influx of money into stock funds — especially since it began during a period of sluggish market performance, before stock prices took off this spring.

Through the first four months of the year, investors put \$7.8 billion more

into stock funds than they took out, surpassing net sales of \$5.8 billion for all of 1989.

"The public's subscription to equity mutual funds may not be a lasting phenomenon," said Michael Sherman at Shearson Lehman Hutton Inc.

"If it is, however, it is certainly coming at an odd time. Apart from all the fundamental factors affecting stock prices, the mentality of this new buyer may affect market behaviour for the foreseeable future."

Excitement over the funds' new clout

helped propel stock prices to new highs in the past week. The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials climbed 80.05 to 2,900.97.

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 4.32 to 1,980.03; the Nasdaq composite index for the over-the-counter market gained 8.54 to 462.14 and the American Stock Exchange market value index was up 3.99 at 363.83.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 172.62 million shares a day, against 163.47 million the week before.

Bid to strengthen position with creditors

Third World tries to tackle debt woes

KUALA LUMPUR, June 2, (Reuters): Fifteen developing countries have hammered out a joint stand on reducing Third World debt to strengthen their bargaining position with creditors and rich nations, a senior Malaysian official said today.

Ahmad Kamil Jaafar, secretary-general of the Malaysian Foreign Ministry, told reporters that the joint position on debt agreed by the Group of 15 (G-15) would be published tomorrow.

The 15 account for about half the total Third World debt of \$1.3 trillion and include some of the world's major debtors from South America and Africa.

It was the first time that developing nations from four continents had united on debt.

"We are forging a position

which can be used in our negotiations. If there was no common position you cannot deflect or minimise pressure (from rich nations)," Ahmad Kamil said.

Third World debt featured prominently at the inaugural meeting this week of the G-15, which groups leaders and senior ministers from Asia, Africa, South America and Europe. Leaders of Argentina, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Senegal, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe were joined by senior ministers from Algeria, Brazil, Egypt, Jamaica, Mexico, Nigeria and Peru at the June 1-3 meeting of the G-15.

Ahmad Kamil spoke to reporters after the group, formed after last September's Non-Aligned Movement summit in Belgrade, held a second day of talks in the

Malaysian capital Kuala Lumpur.

He declined to give details of the agreement, which he said would be announced in a joint communiqué tomorrow.

Malaysia has asked for the Western creditors to be prepared to bear the risk of lending and that the debt of the least developed countries be written off.

Julius Nyerere, one of the Third World's elder statesmen, pleaded with the G-15 leaders not to let dissent in their ranks destroy initiatives and co-operation among poor nations.

The former president of Tanzania also urged the G-15 to set up a secretariat, along the lines of the Group of Seven industrialised nations, to boost Third World co-operation.

3rd Gulf NRI seminar

Importance highlighted

THIRD Gulf NRIs seminar will be the first initiative by the Gulf NRIs to hold a conference in India. Therefore its importance and expectations will be immense.

The seminar will be held on July 4, 5, and 6, 1990 at Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi. Several senior Indian ministers, leading NRIs and trade, banking and investment experts will be attending. The seminar will discuss an array of important subjects which include FERA, taxation, bank and portfolio investments, project investments, NRI education, Riffie and other resettlement requirements.

It will be highly advantageous for the NRIs to attend this seminar due to its wide ranging benefits.

1. Since this seminar is being conducted in New Delhi, a large number of senior government officials from the key ministries have already confirmed their participation. This includes the key departments in the Ministry of Finance, Commerce, Industry, Education and External Affairs. Therefore, this seminar will provide an excellent opportunity to communicate almost directly with the policy level officials in government of India in order to present our suggestions and measures to improve various facilities for non-resident Indians.

2. A special sub-session devoted to education will include the education secretary, state education secretary — Karnataka, leading educationists from professional institutions, Gulf schools' principals as well as representatives from the private higher education institutes in India. NRI Forums in Kuwait and Dubai are jointly preparing detailed papers to highlight NRI educational problems, with an aim to make specific suggestions to the government authorities to alleviate the bottlenecks. NRI parents who have been concerned about higher education problems for their children due to one reason or the other, will find this seminar an extremely useful platform to discuss and make specific suggestions.

3. This seminar is being organised in one of the most luxurious five-star hotels in New Delhi which is also security screened. The organising committee has negotiated highly competitive rates in addition to which the delegates attendance and hotel costs are also being subsidised.

Consequently, the delegate attending the three-day conference would be paying almost 40 to 50 per cent less for a three-day stay including the meals at the hotel due to highly subsidised rates.

This seminar, therefore, presents an excellent opportunity to the NRI families to enjoy the five-star hospitality at the Taj Palace Hotel at highly subsidised and economical rates.

4. The seminar organisers have made special arrangements to offer subsidised air travel fares between Kuwait/Delhi/Kuwait (via Bombay if required) for the delegates and their dependent spouse. Special rates can be made available to the full family even if only one family member pays the registration fee to register as a seminar delegate. Therefore, a family of two or more NRIs planning to visit India can virtually save much more on their travel costs than the amount payable for single delegate's registration.

5. This seminar will provide a good opportunity to be a part of the Gulf NRI fraternity and meet leading NRIs from Dubai, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman and other locations. There will be several social gatherings during the three-day seminar when the NRIs from different locations will get opportunities to meet and talk to each other in very cordial surroundings.

6. Arrangements have also been made to have a classical dance performance from a famous Indian classical dancer, a cultural event, a brief visit to historical sites, in addition to shopping cum sightseeing trip for the delegates' dependent spouse. The delegates will also enjoy well organised cocktails cum dinners on all the three days. All above additional facilities will be offered to the delegates on complimentary basis.

A number of points proposed in the joint communiqué issued at the end of second NRI conference in Dubai have been implemented by the government of India. Therefore, the most important benefits with long lasting effects from this seminar are expected to emerge in future when the seminar proposals are pursued with the concerned government departments. Due to wide participation from state industrial corporations and financing bodies, the seminar will also present a valuable opportunity to the NRIs interested in promoting industrial projects in India.

Central Bank denies order to cut ties

BEIJING, June 2, (Reuters): China's central bank today denied reports that it had ordered Chinese financial institutions to stop dealing with the Bank of Tokyo as a punishment for its plans to open an office in Taiwan.

"This is completely wrong," a People's Bank of China spokeswoman, Wang Yaofan, said.

Japan's Kyodo news service quoted "international financial sources" yesterday as saying the People's Bank of China had taken the action mainly to frighten other Japanese banks away from Taiwan and to punish Japanese banks for not providing loans to China over the past year.

"We hope they will not open a bank in Taiwan. Until now we have not taken any measures," Wang said.

"As for the future, I don't know," she added. Contracts already signed with the Bank of Tokyo would be honoured, she said.

A central bank spokesman was quoted by an official Chinese newspaper last week as saying he hoped the Bank of Tokyo would withdraw its decision.

"Otherwise it will be the Bank (of Tokyo) that is responsible for any of the consequences," the spokesman said.

The Bank of Tokyo office in Japan will be the first Japanese bank presence in Taiwan for 30 years.

Japanese banks are eager to open branches in Taiwan, which broke away from the Mainland with the defeat of the nationalists in the 1949 revolution. But Japan's advance into Taipei's lucrative market has been stalled by warnings from China and consequent caution in Tokyo boardrooms.

Current account surplus declines

TOKYO, June 2, (AP): Japan's current account surplus fell 69.6 per cent in April from a year earlier to \$2,002 billion, pushed down by declining auto and steel exports and rising imports of oil, cars, art and airplanes, the Finance Ministry said yesterday.

The surplus in the current account, which measures trade in services and transfer payments as well as goods, fell from \$6.58 billion in April 1989, in the sharpest fall since a 95.2 per cent drop in June 1979.

"The current account is falling over the long term, and eventually the surplus is going to shrink away," said Jan Vandenberg, an economist with Merrill Lynch in Tokyo. "The vast majority of it is due to... consumption demand in Japan growing quite rapidly."

She said demand in Japan is growing by about 4 per cent a year, compared to less than 2 per cent a year in the United States.

April's trade surplus, which measures only trade in goods, shrank 50.3 per cent to \$4,024 billion, the ministry said.

It said imports, measured on the basis of settled contracts, rose 16.6 per cent from April 1989 to \$17.15 billion.

Exports fell 7.1 per cent to \$21.18 billion, the ministry said. It was the seventh consecutive month exports have declined. Part of the decline was due to the weaker yen, which reduced the value of Japanese exports in dollar terms because of the time lag before lower prices result in higher export volume.

The dollar was trading at an average of 157.20 yen in April, compared to 132.12 yen a year earlier, a 16 per cent devaluation, Finance Ministry officials noted.

Automobile exports in April fell 19.1 per cent from a year earlier, the sharpest drop in 20 years. Ministry officials said this was unusual because Japanese automakers usually boost exports at the beginning of the new fiscal year in April after failing to fill export quotas for the previous year.

Steel exports dropped 23 per cent in April, the sixth month in a row that they have fallen about 20 per cent from year-earlier levels, the ministry said. Much of the decline was attributed to strong domestic demand for steel.

Electric machinery exports fell 6.2 per cent and semiconductor exports fell 8.5 per cent.

Meanwhile, oil imports rose 22.2 per cent along with heavy production by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and speculation that prices will rise in the future, the ministry said.

Auto imports rose for the fifth month in a row, up 72 per cent in April last year. Aircraft imports rose 240 per cent, timber and wood imports rose 41.9 per cent and painting and art imports rose 300 per cent.

Coke halts promotion

ATLANTA, June 2, (Reuters): Coca-Cola said on Friday it was terminating a \$100 million summer promotion campaign known as "magician" because of complaints about defective cans that contained foul-tasting water.

A company spokesman said only 70 to 75 complaints had been received at Coke's Atlanta headquarters concerning the 200,000 prize cans that held bills in \$5 to \$500 amounts.

But he said that was enough to warrant calling off the three-week-old promotion aimed at increasing US sales of Coke classic and cutting into the business of rival Pepsi-Cola.

"Even a few consumers worried is too many," spokesman Randy Donaldson said. "All of the cans will be out of the marketplace by mid-June."

Some marketing consultants thought the debacle could have a psychological impact on Coke, an image-conscious company that was embarrassed five years ago after it replaced its flagship soft drink with new Coke in an attempt to win over some of Pepsi's market.

Public outcry forced the company to bring back the original formula as Coke classic, which now has outsold the newer, sweeter version.

The consultants doubted there would be any long-term fallout from the faulty cans.

"It might not be as bad as it sounds ultimately because it is going to get Coca-Cola in the media a lot," said Martin Block, a professor of advertising at Northwestern University.

Merrill Lynch and Co. analyst Allen Kaplan said he did not expect the move to affect Coca-Cola's earnings. He noted that the company makes 80 per cent of its profit from foreign sales.

Bombay Stock Exchange prices				GE Shpg			
(Rs) June 2, '90				GSFC			
Pr	Cl	Open	Close	Pr	Cl	Open	Close
ACC	498	492	497	GE Shpg	47	46.75	46.75
Alum Chem	—	—	—	GSFC	266.25	267.50	265
Alu Nis	—	—	—	GE Shpg	87.25	87.25	87.50
Ashtek	84.50	83	84	GE Shpg	16	15.50	16.50
Asia Pail	240	240	237.50	Hero Honda	26	25.50	25.50
Asia Corp	35	36	37	Hind Cba	1380	1390	1380
Auto Corp	67.50	66	66	Hind Lever	119	118.50	118.50
Nat Index	429.74	—	—	Hind Lever	153.75	153.75	153.75
Bajaj Auto	458.75	457.50	457.50	Hind Motor	32.50	33	33.75
Bar Rayon	887.50	890	880	Hind Motor	287.50	285	285
Blow Plast	—	—	—	Hind Motor	2215	2220	2205
Boon Dye	218.50	220	215	Hind Motor	227.50	217.50	225
BK Road	115	114	115	Hind Motor	74	73	74.50
Barr Wcl	72.50	72.50	72.50	ITC	59.75	59.25	59.50
Cambare	—	—	—	ITC	102.50	102	101
Cent Enka	3750	3775	3800	Sesa Goa	—	—	—
Cent Sps	3550	3550	3570	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Colgate	220	218.75	218.75	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Crompt Gr	1100	1075	1100	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
DCM	27.50	27	28	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Deep Fert	31.50	31	30.50	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Phulog	62.50	60	62.50	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
El Horla	59	58	58.50	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Escorts	94.50	93.50	94	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
RSE Index	880.80	—	—	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Elayed	146.25	146.25	147.50	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Essar Sps	37	37	36.25	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Food Sps	122	117.50	118	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Forbes	53	52	52	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Gar Poly	28.50	28	28	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
GL India	105	103	100	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
GNFC	40.50	40.25	40	Shaw Wall	—	—	—
Grainm	129.25	129	128	Shaw Wall	—	—	—

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EVENTS



Ambassador Buthiraja presents the Best Play Award to K.P. Ashok Kumar



Winners of IAC's One-Act Play with Budhiraja



Subir Ray receives the award on behalf of the Bengali Cultural Society.

Victory for Malayalees; all are winners



Actors Vijay Antony (above) and Madhu (below) receive the award from Mrs. Budhiraja.



CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Hanafi Al Abahu (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Huda Ramzi, Farouk Fishawi
Al Sahiya
Al Raqassah Wal Siyaseen (Arabic)
Starring: Nabila Obaid, Salah Qabil
Al Hamra
Arabic film featuring Suhair Ramzi, Karam Mnt-awiah
Drive-In
Al Raqassah Wal Siyaseen (Arabic)
Al Firdous
Dost (Hindi)

Starring: Mithun Chakraborty, Amala
Fahad Open-Air
Hatya (Hindi)
Starring: Govinda
Al Fahad
Sisterhood
Al Jahra
Mere Jeewan Saathi (Hindi)
Granada
Zara Si Zindagi (Hindi)
Salsabikhat
Born Killer
Al Jleeb
Sikka (Hindi)
Ahmad Drive-In
Heart Beeps

THE Keralites this year walked away with several prestigious awards in the IAC's One-Act play competition. The winners were announced at the Award Night held on Friday night at the IAC premises.

The Best Play Award went to the Malayalam play *Kothu*, presented by Nitya Gruham. *Kothu* (Mosquito) was directed by K.P. Ashok Kumar, who was named Best Director. Ashok also won the best Acting Performance Award.

The winning play, set in the 1970s, revolves around the tragic story of an ageing vagabond couple for whom the moment of truth is feeding their hunger. Even as tragic a thing as death is eclipsed when hunger takes over and the mosquitoes bite.

The Best Actor award was shared by V.J. Antony and Madhu. Antony won the award for playing the old man in *Kothu*; Madhu won for his role as Chandala, a tribal working in a crematorium, in the Malayalam play *Mritu Nani* (Thanks to Death). Both actors scored 80.9. As there was a tie, the organisers decided to declare them joint winners.

The second prize for Best Play went to the Bengali Cultural Society for their presentation, *Marich Sangbad*. Directed by Swapan Das Gupta, the play was based on a page from the Ramayana. The victim is the unfortunate 'Marich' — the scapegoat in the kidnapping of Sita. The scene then shifts to a village, where a peasant is being victimised. The need for a magical deliverance, and redemption, concludes the theme.

The third prize for Best Play went to *Chanteeran and His Clan*, a Malayalam production staged by the IAC Badminton Team. This play dealt with class prejudice. It revolves around the story of Kurumatt, the saviour of the lower caste villagers, who is removed by deceit from their midst. Finally, the lower caste villagers take the task into their own hands. The moral of the play is that it is within oneself to seek redemption.

It was a close race for the top Best Play Award. *Kothu* won with 144 points out of 200; *Marich Sangbad* received 142.1 points and *Chanteeran and His Clan* got 140.3 points.

The IAC Badminton Team also won the Best Stage Setting Award, scoring 74.9 points.

The Best Actress Award was won by Mrs. Madhuri Bhatia for playing the mother, Radha, in a Hindi play entitled *Kissa Babul Ke Aangan Ka*. This play was



Best Actress, Mrs. Madhuri Bhatia receives her award from Mrs. Budhiraja



Abdul Khaliq announces the winners.

based on the burning issue: dowry, with Radha trying to find a suitable match for her three daughters. It was directed by Harish Bhatia. Mrs. Bhatia received 76 out of 100 points.

The Best Child Actor Award introduced for the first time this year, went to Master Raman Sethi for playing Raman in *Kissa Babul Ke Aangan Ka*. He won 73.3 points.

Sixteen plays in seven Indian languages were entered for the competition by various amateur Indian theatre groups. The groups which participated in the competition are: Hulla Gulla Theatres (*Today Mine*, *Tomorrow Yours*; *Konkani*);

Andhra Arts Circle (*Prerana*; *Telugu*); Maharashtra Mandal (*Trapped*; *Marathi*); Art Mine (*Suspicion*; *English*); Nitya Gruham (*Kathu*; *Malayalam*); Bengali Cultural Society (*Marich Sangbad*; *Bengali*);

IAC Badminton Team (*Chanteeran and His Clan*); Nitya Bhatia (*Kafan*; *Hindi*); Al Othman (*Ekvot*; *Konkani*); Fankar Arts (*Ek Musafir Khoya*

Hua; Hindi); Telugu Kala Samiti (*Kallu*; *Telugu*); Samarpan (*Teen Bandar*; *Gujarati*); Bhatia Mitra Mandal (*Kissa Babul Ke Aangan Ka*); Kuwait Dramatic Society (*Aaghatam*; *Malayalam*); Madhu and Friends (*Mritu Nani*; *Malayalam*); and Stage Index (*Shanti Parvam*; *Malayalam*).

The IAC also gave 16 Best Acting Performance Awards to actors and actresses who participated in the competition. The winners are: Celine Mendonca (Cynthi in *Today Mine*, *Tomorrow Yours*; 64.9/100; M.S. Jeremiah (Chowdhary in *Prerana*; 47.7); Suresh Kamath (Rami in *Trapped*; 67); Savio Fernandes (Suspicion; 71.9); Thankamani Ashok (Old Woman, *Kothu*; 75.1); Felix Britto (Felix Pango in *Ekvot*; 66.1); Arif Kazi (Musafir in *Ek Musafir Khoya* Hua; 73.6); Laxmi Raju (*Seetha* in *Kallu*; 54.4); Chandrakant Gujar (Subhash in *Teen Bandar*; 67.9); Harish Kumar Bhatia (Shyamal in *Kissa Babul Ke Aangan Ka*; 76.1); Mohan T. George (Thamuran in *Aaghatam*; 62.4); Omana Thomas (Makka in *Mritu Nani*; 75); Prakash Pajmanap (Banyan Tree in *Shanti Parvam*; 54.3); Swapan Dasgupta (Ostad in *Marich Sangbad*; 78.6); C.I. Philip (Chanteeran; 73.6); and Rakesh Asthana (Ghesu in *Kafan*; 68.7).

The panel of judges comprised Dr. Kameswara Rao, Cajetan Pereira, Noor Parker, V.P. Chacko, S.S.N. Ganju, Madhu Purohit, M.P. Delbehera and Tara Prasad. The judgement committee was chaired by First Secretary, Indian Embassy, Abdul Khaliq.

Khaliq, commenting on this year's competition, said: "Qualitatively (the competition)

was a great improvement in technique, stage setting, characterisation, characterisation and overall presentation."

He said the Indian groups were more enthusiastic in this contest than last year and the IAC received a larger number of entries.

After last year's successful competition, IAC toyed with the idea of holding an All Gulf One-Act Play contest. The idea could not see the light of day due to the difficulties of co-ordinating such an event, and organising visas etc for competing Indian teams in other Gulf countries.

Khaliq also praised the personal dedication of IAC Secretary H. Bhaumik, the man behind the idea of holding One-Act Play competition. The event, which was to be a one-time affair, gathered such momentum that the IAC has now made it an annual event, with a raring trophy for Best Play. Last year, the trophy was won by the Bengali Cultural Society.

Bhaumik also tried to hold lectures on dramatics, in co-operation with the National School of Drama, Delhi, but nothing concrete emerged due to certain constraints.

If there was any disappointment, it was the poor attendance during the presentation of the competition plays by various groups. The IAC hall, which is normally packed to capacity, received between 700 to 800 viewers when the competitors put on their plays last month.

However, the Award Night, slightly extended, was attended by more than 1,000 people, who applauded the winners. The awards were presented by Indian Ambassador A.K. Budhiraja, Mrs. Geeta Budhiraja, and IAC President M.M. Mathews.

The show was compered by Usha Ram Mohan.

The organisers said they appreciated the enthusiasm shown by all the groups who took part in the competition. They also praised the team effort and the dedication of the teams. Next year's competition, they hope, would be bigger and better.

Some prizes were donated by Air-India (Best Director Award) and Kuwait India International Exchange Company (Best Stage Setting) and K.C. Eappen (Best Child Actor Award).

IAC's One Act Play competition was sponsored by Essa Husain Al Yousufi.

(Reported by: Nirmala Jansen; written by Fathima Ahmed) (Arab Times staff)



Best Child Actor, Raman Sethi, receiving his award



The IAC Badminton Team show off their trophy; they won the third prize for Chanteeran.



An IAC Badminton Team representative receives the Best Stage Setting Award from Rangaswamy as M.M. Mathews looks on.

(Photographs: Bobby)

WHAT'S ON

Arts

Boushabri Gallery
A MONTH-LONG exhibition of paintings by eight Arab artists is now being held at the Boushabri Gallery, North Salamiya Bldg, Salem Al Muharak St. The works of such artists as Jaafar Istah, Jaafar Kaki, Rashid Diyab, Dia Al Azzawi and Saleh Jami'ei are on show. Open daily from 9 am to 12:30 pm; 4 to 7:30 pm; until month end.

Social

Daniella Coffee Morning
June 3: The next coffee morning for Dames will take place at 9:30 am, Kuwait International Hotel. For details call Inge: 3727688 ext. 207.

Kuwait Nomads R.F.C.
June 2: Thursday: Oval Ball at the Hunting and Equestrian Club. 8 pm for 8:30 pm start. Full details from R. Houston (5638435); G. Adams (5645333); S. Hill (5391720).

Kuwait Players AGM
JUNE 4: Kuwait Players annual general meeting, 8 pm, AlFoz, Messilah Beach Hotel.

LIL
June 4: LIL will hold Latino programme; Regency Palace Hotel; 8 pm sharp; doors open: 6 pm, close: 7:45 pm. No one will be allowed to enter after programme begins. Door charge. Extravaganza features performers from Columbia, Bolivia, Argentina and other Latin countries.

Hotels

At Al Salam
Al Beridat Cntee Shnp: Arabic and Continental buffets, lunch and dinner; also a la carte; open 6 am to midnight.
Al Mawardi Open-Air Cafe:

open from 6 pm to midnight.
Al Gandouf Grill Garden: open after 6 pm; grilled food.
Friday brunch: 12 noon to 3 pm, ship discovery tour, entertainment for children and cartoon-strip characters.

Italian food promotion, until June 6, at Al Bender Coffee Shop.

At the SAS
Bistrette: Sunday/Wednesday — pasta night; Italian music.
Peacock Room: Chinese cuisine; lunch and dinner.
Al Boom: Kuwaiti experience; charcoal grilled food, plus mezzeh buffet.

Clock: snack bar — burgers, french fries, etc.

At the Meridian
La Brasserie Restaurant
Wednesday: Indonesian Corner, cuisine prepared in front of you.

Thursday: Jazz Night — jazz music, seafood specialities.
Friday: Oriental luncheon buffet; family day.
Versailles: Business lunch and dinner featuring fndue; grilled food.

French food promotion: until May 31, specialities from Provence, south of France, will be featured in the Versailles Restaurant.

At the Holiday Inn
Al Ahmadi Coffea Shop: breakfast, lunch and dinner buffets

Continental and Oriental cuisine.
Al Andalus Supper Club: Arabic Nite, every Thursday; Arabic band entertains guests.

Friday Family Lunch: Disney fantasy on Fridays.

At the Plaza:
Al Dallah Cntee Shnp: international cuisine; open buffet plus menu.
Luluwah Corner: snacks and refreshing summer drinks.

Maron Pnln: Italian ambience and cuisine, particularly pasta.
At the Messilah Beach
Al Mubarakiyah: open Around the clock; seafood promotion on Wednesdays, 7 pm; Fridays — Middle Eastern cuisine.

Al Jawharah: Thursday special — special menu; music by Rainbow Band.
Al Berdowneh: BBQ on Thursday in beach-garden restaurant; Lebanese food.

Music

Murchana
June 15: Murchana, a musical evening, featuring Bengali, Hindi and semi-classical songs at Meridian Hotel. For reservations call 5640389 after 5:30 pm; or 4893424.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

9.30 Holy Quran
9.40 Gnod Mnrning
9.50 Kaola: cartoons
10.10 News Summary
10.15 World News via Satellite (repeat)
10.30 Wajhat Nazar: this Arabic serial concludes today.
11.15 Good Mnrning: variety
11.30 Cultural programme
12.00 Candid Camera
12.30 News Summary
12.35 Closedown

Evening

4.00 Holy Quran
4.15 World News via Satellite
4.30 Sally: cartoon serial
5.00 Cartoons
6.00 Sane'a Al Sayoof: Arabic serial
7.00 Songs
7.15 You and Your Health: presented by Dr. Saleh Mohammad and Ghazi Al Khayat.
7.50 Diwanayat Shuara Al Nabat: Nabat poetry session
8.30 Good Evening:

KTV 2

magazine shnw
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Muzakkarat Zawj: Arabic serial last episode.
10.30 Hassal Khair: Arabic play, featuring Samina Al Afli, Mahmood Jundi, Hanem Muhammad.
12.30 News Summary
12.35 World News via Satellite
12.50 Holy Quran/Closedown

Evening

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Beachcombers: "Kelly and Kate". Kelly runs away from home and Mary Ross despairs of ever finding him....
7.00 The Politics of Food: focus on drought and famine in the Sudan. Documentary.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Matlock: a secretary's murder investigation interests the lawyer and his associates.
9.30 Body Matters: "The Fats of Life." Ton-

ight's episode examines body fat — white and brown — and how it affects body functions.

10.00 The Nutt House: A Soviet ballet company arrives at the hotel... and one of the company wants in defect.... Comedy.

10.30 Best-Seller: "Champagne Charlie". Part 2. Charlie's dislike for his uncle grows as he plans to take over his inheritance. Drama.

12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.15 am
Zuhr	11.46
Asr	3.20 pm
Maghreb	6.44
Isha	8.15

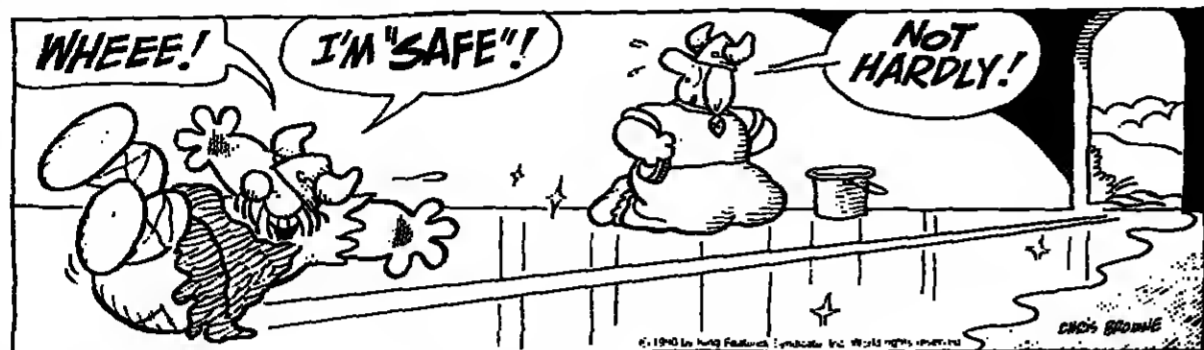


● The 'Brandenburger Door' was "constructed" at the Kuwait International Hotel on the occasion of the German Independence Day celebration. Above: German Ambassador Soenksen, Mrs. Soenksen and other guests pictured in front of the door.

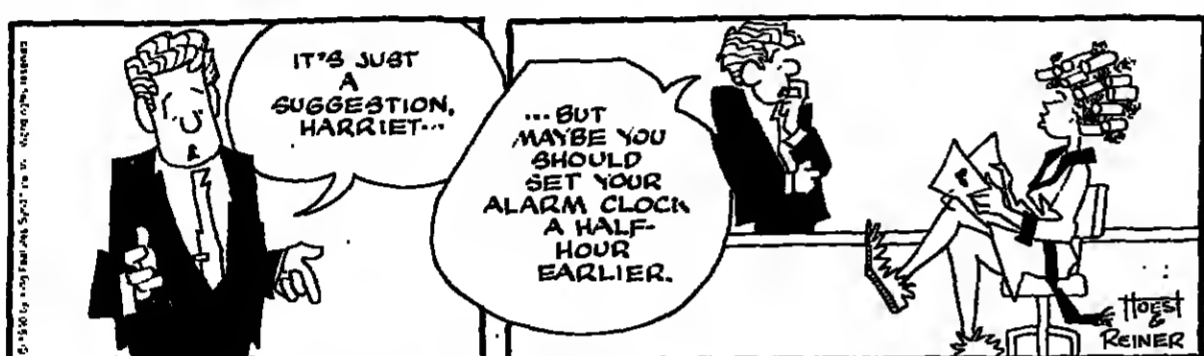
BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — By Dik Browne



AGATHA CRUM — By Bill Hoest



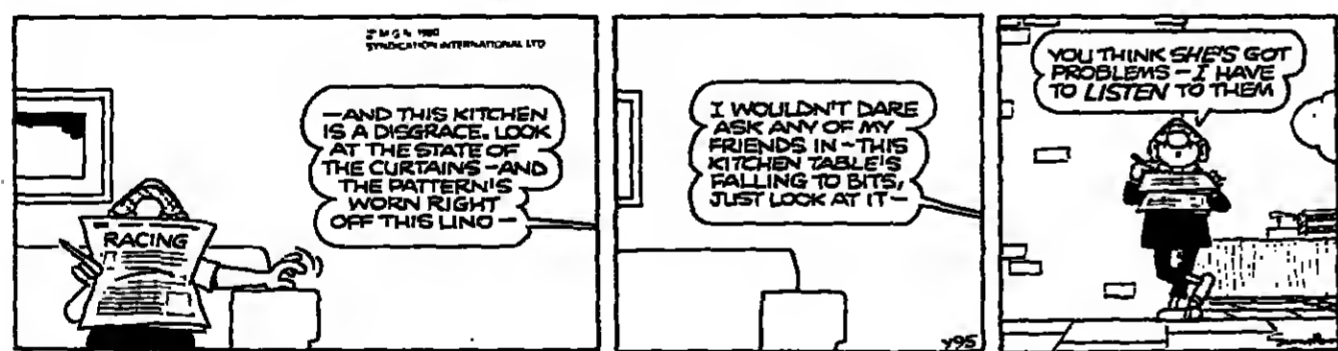
BEETLE BAILEY — By Mort Walker



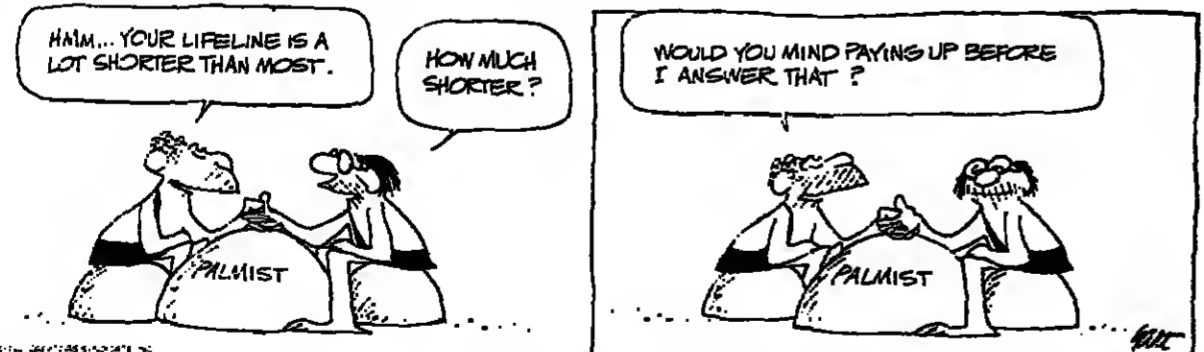
THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP



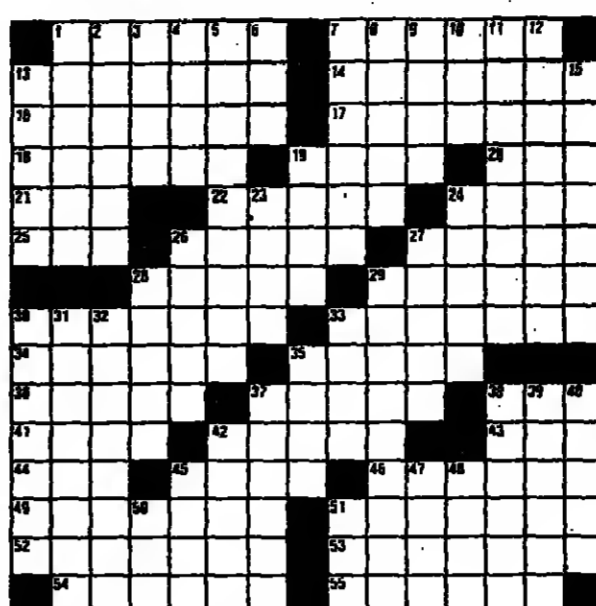
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shull



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Like hen's teeth
7 Money, in Montmartre
13 Having an interesting history
14 Brook's relative
16 Heavy artillery
17 Silly
18 Jargons
19 Like certain cars
20 Smallest part of matter; Abbv.
21 Grassland
22 Speak
24 Loser of a fictional race
25 Dental deg.
26 Court officer
27 Place for a barbecue
28 Signs of pleasure
29 Desires
30 Insult
33 Attains
34 North Pacific sea

DOWN

1 Took a good, long look
2 Cuban dances
3 River in Tuscany
4 Uprising
5 Finding fault with
6 Copy desk toilers, for short
7 Author Antonia
8 Stair part
9 Greedy
10 Convent occupant
11 Prevailing weather conditions
12 Lady of Spain
13 Cooking direction
15 Bony fish group
19 Salt Lake City

PLAYERS

23 Color
24 June, who married Fred McMurray
26 Hag
27 Fleehy
28 Beltyache
29 Hold back
30 Depart secretly
31 Serious offenses
32 Foreground
33 Bird sounds
35 Mardi
37 Reduce in rank
38 Reviewer
39 Having voice
40 Poplar
42 Victorious
45 Hawaiian island
47 Makes mistakes
48 Do office work
50 School of whales
51 Spring month, in Metz

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
MATS FILLER TUFF
OMOO INANE ENOL
BATS IN THE BELFRY
STS DERR PLUME
PESO SWOONER
INSIST SWANN
MITT SPIRY JIB
PLAYCAT AND MOUSE
SET AMONG PLEA
BREWS SWAYER
NETLOSS UTAH
ERROL ASIN MIA
SNAKE IN THE GRASS
TIME NINER QINK
SEAS ALORS BLTS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 3 2

♥ 9 3

♦ K Q J 10 9

♣ A K Q J

WEST

♠ 5

♥ 6

♦ A 8 7 6 2

♣ 10 9 8 6 4 3

EAST

♠ 7 4

♥ 10 7 5 4 2

♦ 5 4 3

♣ 7 5 2

SOUTH

♠ A K Q J 10 9 8 6

♥ A K Q J 8

♦ Void

♣ Void

The bidding:

South West North East

7 ♠ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠

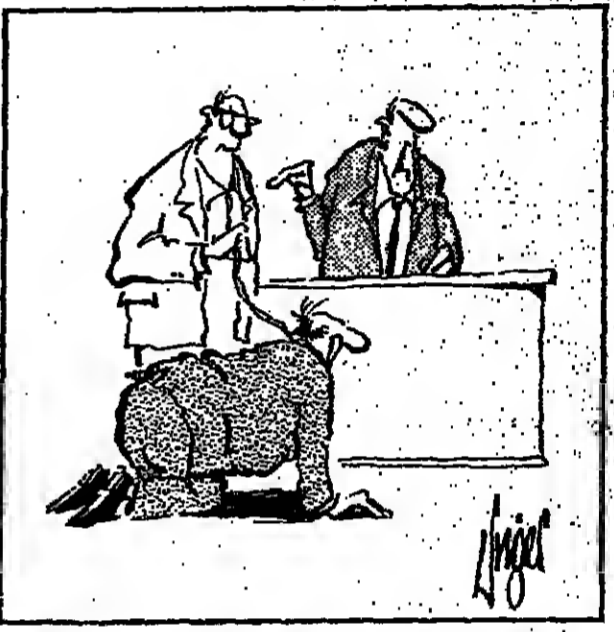
Always be on the lookout for the extra chance that might be the difference between victory and defeat. This hand was prepared for the intercollegiate championships 25 years ago, and vividly illustrates our point.

The recommended opening bid on the South cards was seven spades, a grand slam that looks lay-down. Some students discovered the reason for this direct action to their cost—those who started off with a demand bid were far from happy when North converted seven spades to seven no trump, even though that made on occasion when the opening lead was a club, or a heart, and declarer guessed to take an immediate finesse for the ten.

Declarer ruffed the opening lead and, in most cases, ran off all the trumps. However, the solid minor suits were there for all to see in the dummy, so East did not let go a heart. Eventually, declarer stalled on the heart suit only to find that he had a loser there and no way to avoid it.

This is not really all that difficult a problem. If hearts are 4-2, declarer can claim, so the right way to go about the hand is to test that suit—after drawing exactly one round of trumps! Now play just two rounds of hearts. If everyone follows, draw the rest of the trumps and claim. If, as here, one of the defenders shows out and also has no more spades, ruff your low heart with dummy's last trump, get back to your hand with a ruff, draw the outstanding trumps and claim.

—What if the second round of hearts gets ruffed? No big deal. Since you were going to lose a heart anyway if you drew the trumps, the most you were investing was one extra undertrick—a picayune price to pay for a grand slam!



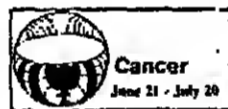
"Your honor, he's leading the witness."

YOUR STARS



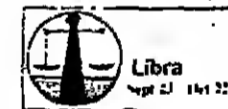
Aries March 21 - April 20

You will have something to be pleased about but do not let it go to your head. You should be a little more concerned about your health. Make sure you do not leave things in disorder. Be trustworthy.



Cancer June 21 - July 20

You will be able to do something you have long wished to do but it will prove a little disappointing. Something of which you had high hopes will not now happen. Do not entrust a confidence to someone you do not know very well. Be discreet.



Libra Sept 23 - Oct 22

You will find the solution to a problem that has been dogging you. It is quite surprising. You should not postpone further something you have been postponing for a long time. Show a little more goodwill towards others. Be firm.



Capricorn Dec 21 - Jan 19

You should beware of exceeding safe limits and should also avoid exaggerations. Make sure you are correctly dressed for the occasion and the temperature. Do all you can to maintain harmony with your partner. Be more patient.



Taurus April 21 - May 21

You should think more about the future and less about what has been. There is no reason to be afraid of change. Do not altogether ignore some secondary matter but do not attach too much attention to it. Be candid.



Leo June 21 - Aug 21

You are liable to get lost in details and should seek to get back to essentials. Show more sympathy towards a friend who is having a difficult time. Do not spend more than you well know you can afford. Be generous.



Scorpio Oct 23 - Nov 21

Something you had been taking for granted will turn out not to be anything of the kind. You should try to take your mind off work, but that does not mean not doing anything at all. Give others the benefit of whatever doubt there might be. Be meaningful.



Aquarius Jan 20 - Feb 19

You should keep an open mind towards change, but no changes should be made just for the sake of change. Your lucky numbers are 14 and 36. No need to take everything quite so seriously but no room for frivolity either. Read a letter again before posting it. Be reasonable.



Gemini Mar 21 - Apr 21

Make sure your partner is not left in ignorance of your love and affections. Do not spend too much time attending to a hobby. Put your partner and family first of all. Do not do anything that is not entirely honest. Be tactful.



Virgo Aug 23 - Sept 22

You will be able to develop your cultural interests. However you should not cast your net wider than you have time and resources to pursue. And take an interest in what is of great concern to your partner. Be malleable.



Sagittarius Nov 23 - Dec 21

The prospects are better than they seemed a while ago, but there is no room for complacency. The way to deal with negative influences is not by trying to ignore them. Listen closely to what others are saying and take note. Be prompt.



Pisces Feb 20 - Mar 20

Do not believe all you hear but do not be too cynical either. Make sure you do not do anything which you know would be on your conscience. Do not leave to others what you should do for yourself. Be sincere.



"He's only buying me a dishwasher to save himself work."



"Turn left at the light, and it's the 79th street on the right."

Biggest crisis is apathy; America faces problem of 'frozen people'

Addicts liberated from slavery of crack cocaine

By Kirsten Conover

SAN FRANCISCO (CSM): Cecil Williams fights slavery in the 1990s — the slavery of crack cocaine.

"Out of my 60 years as a member of the black community, never have I seen such ravaging destruction as crack cocaine," says Reverend Williams, pastor of San Francisco's Glide Memorial Church.

Here in the city's drug-infested, high-crime Teodelio district, Williams and his church have for 25 years provided a gleaming refuge for the poor, homeless, and crisis-stricken. One of the church's 28 programmes feeds thousands of homeless and hungry every day.

In the past two years, Williams and his staff have mustered enormous energies to help "liberate" those plagued by drugs. Through prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery efforts (with help from Haight Ashbury Free Clinics and reformed addicts), the church has developed "Facts on Crack."

"The programme is excellent; it's just getting on its feet," says Charles Jackson, counsellor for the San Francisco Substance Abuse Referral Unit (SARU). "They seem to have a fairly decent success rate" and, especially important, they offer a programme for young crack mothers. "Cecil is one of the most dynamic leaders not only in the community and state of California, but the country," he adds. "He moves and shakes things."

In talking about crack's effect on the community, Williams not only refers

to it as slavery, but as a "genocidal threat." When you're on crack, "you begin to lose the closest people to you," says the burly reverend, who is taking time out for an interview before filming a public service announcement. "Before you know it, the compulsion, the desire, the need for crack cocaine is so severe, there is nothing, nothing that you want more because — the experts tell us — it satisfies every need that you have."

Recently, Williams co-chaired a national conference on the crack cocaine epidemic. The theme of the meeting, titled "The Rebirth of a Race, Crack Cocaine: Resistance and New Hope," was dear to Williams' heart: the empowerment of the black family and the spiritual force behind rebirth. He hopes such efforts will generate models for how to produce a crack-free African-American family.

"We've come upon some models in America where we're doing battle in the trenches with crack cocaine and other drugs," he says. "We're also beginning to understand addiction much more. We're beginning to understand what it means to be a part of the extended family — because it was the extended family that in many ways during slavery — brought us through."

He sums up his remedial approach in two words: faith and a resistance. "Faith" being that which we have experienced as a people that would never let us give up. "Resistance" means that nothing, literally nothing, not even crack cocaine... can and will eliminate us."

"We will overcome it," Williams says fervently. What's needed, he says, is leadership and a strong family support system — the kind of climate Glide Memorial tries to provide.

Williams was rated one of the most highly respected public figures in San Francisco in a 1989 poll of registered voters. He has a calm voice and gentle smile, yet an energizing demeanour. He attributes his zest to a desire for his "brothers and sisters" to live better lives than he did. And poverty cannot be solved without first confronting addiction, he says.

Williams recalls growing up in San Angelo, Texas, where he lived in the "worst ghetto." But he was fortunate to have family and community support. His greatest role model was his grandfather, he says, an ex-slave turned cowboy who was one of the early settlers in San Angelo. "He was the one who stood up to white people. He didn't take oaths from nobody," he says in a deep voice tinged with a slight Texas accent.

Williams' mother was a "very loving person. She was like the one who soothed us. When you got hurt, she'd rock us and kiss us and the first thing you know that pain would be gone, whatever it was," he says gently.

Williams says that a "mental breakdown" in his childhood "did more for me than anything. It allowed me to look at myself." His family and the rest of the community "recovered me back to my sanity."

"You've got to have healing" in a drug-ridden community, he says. "Healing has to happen in that com-

munity, and that means you take time out and, rather than condemn, you put people in your bosom and you rock the pain away."

Children especially need attention, says Williams. "They've never been told 'No!' (about drugs), and they've never had anybody to touch them and feel with them and rock them and soothe them and recover them. No, most of the folks said 'You ain't no good, I'm sick of you, I'm tired of you!'"

According to Williams, recovering addicts say they feel abandoned, ashamed, rejected, hurt, alone; they turned to drugs to make themselves feel better. In many ways, the drug culture has replaced community, says Williams. Take drugs gangs, for example. They offer fellowship, comradeship, friendship — brotherhood and sisterhood. "They will die for each other... again, that's part of the extended family concept," says Williams.

How did all this happen?

Take a people "gripped by poverty and homelessness," says Williams, a people who feel their opportunities are limited, that prejudice against them is rampant, that a great gap exists between the haves and the have-nots. They are a "people who (are) in great need of something to fulfill their lives." And suddenly, that "something" is crack cocaine.

Economics also plays a big part, says Williams. "Slavery was based on economics; crack cocaine is based on economics."

But the biggest crisis is apathy, he

says. "Apathy is the Greek term, and it means 'the frozen people.' I'm convinced that what America faces now is whether or not it's going to be the frozen people."

Some "middle-class black churches" have a troubling attitude, Williams says. They think that "once you get comfortable, stay that way." The membership decides, in effect, that "we must preserve what we have." What they're really saying is they're not willing to change, to step into the raging fire of problems.

The most important ingredient in fortifying the black community is leadership, says Williams. "That does not mean that we don't include other communities. We need the white community, we need the brown community and the yellow, we need the red — we need all of these folks. Ultimately, it's not my problem, it's our problem," says Williams.

"My theology is based on freeing people; acting and reflecting... doing. You don't talk about what you believe, you act what you believe... My vision is to make the church a reality, and that means to make it an inclusive church — no exotics."

One of the most glorious moments in Williams' career was the Sunday that South African dissident Nelson Mandela was released from prison. The church service at Glide — know for its celebrations — was "overwhelming," he says. "By the time we finished, it was like we were levitating. I've never had people say to me what they said Sunday in all of my 25 years," he recalls.



The Rev. Cecil Williams, pastor of San Francisco's Glide Memorial Church.

The beat goes on.....

Rock rolls gingerly along in China

By David R. Schweisberg

BEIJING, (UPI): On the walk-up third floor of a dilapidated building in eastern Beijing, beyond a hallway crammed with trash and rusting equipment, a tiny recording studio reverberated this spring with the unfamiliar rhythms of Jamaica.

Over several months of late-night sessions, painstakingly laying down instrumental tracks and vocals, some of China's best popular musicians recorded what will be the first Chinese reggae album.

Forced that the style is rooted in political dissent and the kind of soul-stirring beat abhorred by China's rulers: A government company organised the project, working with an American producer, and plans to release the album this summer.

"It's simple," shrugged an official of a government ministry involved with the album. "We can make money."

A year after the crackdown on the pro-democracy movement, despite a general chill in the arts and dire official warnings against the infiltration of Western culture,

rock music is alive in China, although no one can say for how long.

From syrupy Hong Kong-Taiwan pop to long-haired, hard-driving heavy metal, the beat goes on in dance halls, private bars and hotels. The players range from a small circle of stars to a plethora of teen noisemakers in the American garage-band genre.

Authorities are watching closely, limiting mass concerts to a few, controlling the musicians through licensing and tax agencies, and posting uniformed police at most performances. But small crackdowns come between longer periods of tolerance.

Seeing cash in the rock boomlet, entrepreneurs and government companies are wading into the uncharted waters, retreating to safety when something official bites and then trying again. Even factories are sponsoring their workers in rock bands.

"It's bizarre, it's schizophrenic," marvelled a leading Chinese musician. "The officials see commercial opportunities."

"The government people say these

musicians may be outlaws, but they are still cultural products of China," said Jeffrey Cheen, the Los Angeles-based rock producer shepherding the reggae album.

Most surprising on the Beijing circuit is a journalist-turned-singer who fell into political hot water last year, after government television removed her as a news anchor for publicly criticizing Chinese leaders at the height of the protests.

But most visible is China's leading rock star, Cui Jian, 28, whose rock-inspired riffs and rebellious lyrics strike a deep chord in young Chinese, especially those disaffected with communist society and the lack of opportunity they see in a dismal future.

A one-time classical trumpeter who was thrown out of a state-run troupe for experimenting with rock, Cui's three years of success have been dogged by controversy despite his efforts to stay out of politics, leaving him intermittently in and out of favour.

His best-known song, *Nothing to my name*, became an unofficial anthem of the student protesters during last year's

occupation of Tiananmen Square. Ironically, the song titled an album that earned Cui a fortune from sales in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Cui is now in official good grace after undertaking a 10-city national tour to benefit this fall's Beijing Asian games. But as a sign of his delicate position, officials recently halted the tour midway through, indicating it would resume after June 4.

That date is the anniversary of last year's crackdown, and officials are working to avert any spark that could rekindle unrest. Cui's performances routinely incite young Chinese to flash the forbidden V-for-victory sign, the emblem of Tiananmen.

The reggae project illustrates the self-censorship most Chinese musicians practice, according to Cheen, a veteran producer whose career included stints at Capital and Mercury record labels and who has been working with the Chinese since 1986.

The album's 11 songs are mostly Chinese traditional tunes re-arranged in reggae style.

The duty of publishing newspapers in Boston

By Ross Atkin

BOSTON, (CSM): For Melvin B. Miller, publisher and editor of the Bay State Banner, putting out a newspaper with a largely black readership in Boston is more mission than moonlighting.

"It's a duty" is all the established attorney says of his other role. Sitting in the downtown law office of Fitch, Miller & Tourse, where he is a partner, Miller declines to elaborate on the particulars of his commitment.

He may wish to keep the reasons for his persistence private, but a sense of duty hangs on as an almost invisible thread hindering the black press in its many manifestations. Black papers in the United States may not be as crusading as they once were, but they still reflect and chronicle the black experience more fully than it's reported elsewhere.

"(Blacks) need to read about themselves," says Dorris Ellis, editor of the *Houston Sun*, one of five black papers in that city. "That's where the mainstream daily newspapers tend to fail the African-American community. There are not enough stories about us. We need to see blacks in the paper, and not just in hand-cuffs or on the sports page."

Pursuing this common objective in the United States with varying degrees of success and professionalism are about 175 black-owned and operated newspapers, according to Henry G. La Brie III, a former Boston University instructor and black press scholar, who has done surveys for *Editor & Publisher* magazine. Some sources offer much higher estimates, but whatever the exact numbers, these papers are as diverse as the mainstream press. But many are weekly community-style publications with small staffs and circulations.

The *Banner* began 25 years ago, shortly after passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, when there was a burst of hope and expectation among Boston's African-American population but little news media attention paid to African-American population but little Miller's vision for a truly state-wide newspaper has come up short, but he seems hardened to the constant frustrations.

"To do the job properly is impossible," he says. "The paper is deficient every week, but it's better than nothing." The *Banner* has established a reputation for sound journalism. Former staffers have gone on to publications like the *New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Los Angeles Times*.



Bay State Banner editor-publisher Melvin B. Miller.

The *Banner's* circulation is 10,000; readership is four times that. Like other black-run newspapers, making circulation gains is doubly tough now that major metropolitan dailies have broadened their outlooks and intentionally integrated their staffs to bring more racial balance to their news and opinion columns.

Even so, Carmen Marshall, executive director of the National Black Media Coalition, doesn't believe this development erodes the need for a strong black press.

"That's a bogus proposition that now that we have black people working at white papers, we don't need the black newspaper the way we once did," he says. "It's needed more now than it's ever been needed. (Major newspapers) have black reporters, but they are not voices. They cover what they are told to cover."

"(When the black reporter writes to the black press, there is more believability," says Steve Davis, the executive director of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, an organization of black-owned papers.

During their heyday in the 1920s, '30s, and '40s, black-run newspapers were much more numerous than they are today, according to Mr. La Brie. Many fell by the wayside during the postwar era, he says, partly as the result of the social upheavals black papers helped to foster.

Because of civil-rights gains, the need for a vibrant black press may be less apparent, La Brie says, but it is no less critical.

Rather than being a forthright advocate, today's black press is often a counterbalance to other news sources.

The advantages of this could be seen clearly during the immediate aftermath of the shocking Carol Stuart murder

case in Boston. Some of the print and electronic media fell into the trap of playing up negative racial stereotypes, something the *Banner* judiciously avoided with its unsensationalized treatment.

"We did not over-cover the Stuart case; it was not an obsessive interest," says managing editor Brian O'Connor, whose presence at the *Banner* is partly due to his understanding of the paper's predominantly black readership.

Perspective is more important than compassion. "White people are part of the constituency, too, since they live here," Miller says of the paper's multi-community circulation area.

But much of the paper is devoted to covering blacks and the issues that affect them, whether the possible civil-rights violations of a day school across the Charles River in Cambridge or developments in South Africa. Unlike some blacks' newspapers, which go heavy on social ews, the *Banner* places a premium on what O'Connor calls serious "oases-to-the-ground beat coverage," and less on "circulation boosters" like entertainment and sports.

The challenges of the *Banner's* reporting sweep may create its own problems. But even black newspapers of less ambition often must cope with scarce advertising dollars, low literacy levels within the community, and, in some cases, misty images.

During the 1960s, La Brie says, most black newspapers took a conservative approach to civil-rights activism rather than siding with young militants.

"(Black newspapers) were somewhat out of step with the times, and I think they jeopardized their future audiences," he says, noting an absence of strong middle-aged black support for these papers today.

German unification major setback for fair sex

By Robert J. McIntyre

REUNIFICATION of Germany will be a major setback for women of the German Democratic Republic (GDR). East German women currently benefit from a strong, interconnected web of social-welfare, education, housing, and labour-market support programmes.

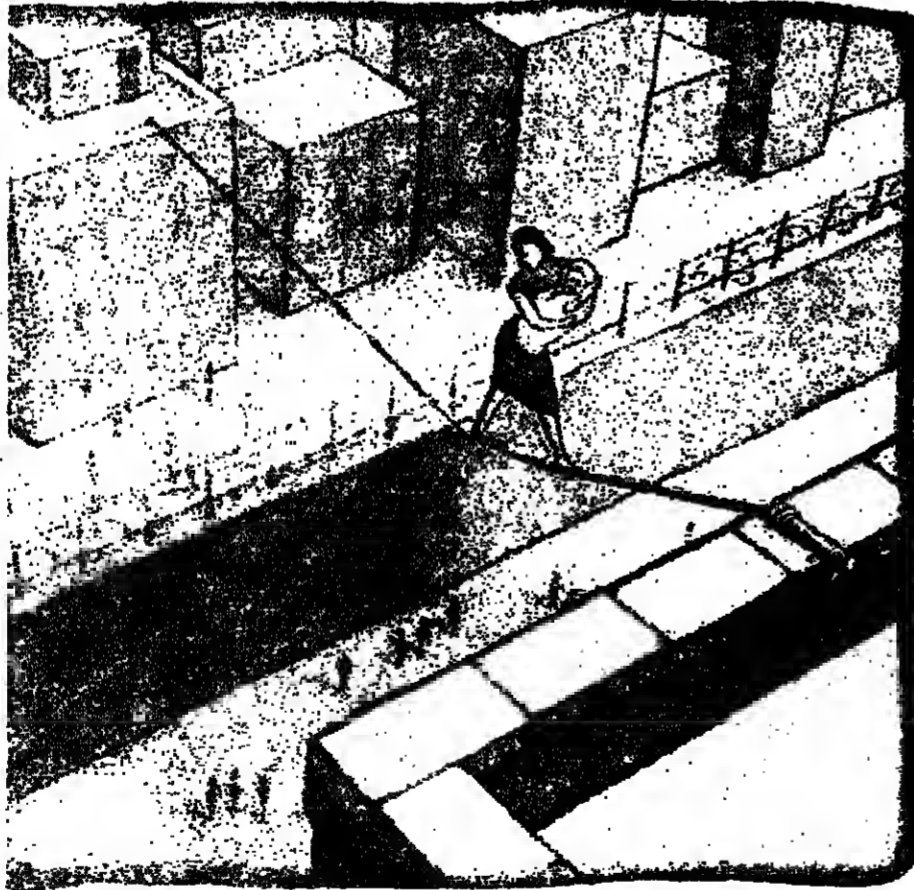
Not so in West Germany, where such programmes are either non-existent or much weaker, and where the social-welfare structure encourages new mothers to leave the labour force. There is widespread concern among East German women that existing programmes will disappear altogether upon reunification, leading to mass female unemployment.

Two examples illustrate what East German women stand to lose: First, the GDR has a comprehensive, integrated programme of parenthood support unparalleled anywhere in East or West Europe. Even Sweden, noted for its social efforts for women, has weaker programmes and runs an economy in which many females are either not committed to careers or work part-time.

Second, the GDR's combination of substantial income support, maternity leave, and family-allowance payments until children leave home is only the most visible part of this social-policy network. The employment guarantees are equalled in few other societies. Women receive in-grade raises and retirement credit while they're out of the work force. They are guaranteed the right to return to the same position or a comparable one. And they are encouraged to refrain to recapture lost "qualifications" upon their return.

East Germany also provides virtually free quality kindergarten, preschool and after-school care for all its children. By law, child care must be provided in a family's immediate neighbourhood, and until such provision is made, a single mother may remain at home at full salary. The GDR also has a comprehensive hot-lunch programme and a structural after-school care programme to assist working parents who can't meet their children at the end of the school day.

The popularity of these social programmes was made clear the second week of February when Volker Abend, the new GDR vice-minister of education, announced that as East and West inevitably converged, the special features of GDR life — such as the hot-lunch programme and after-school care — would have to be eliminated. Within 24 hours, a group of 2,000 to 3,000 East German women, many



East Germany, whose women currently benefit from a web of social-welfare education-housing schemes, face the prospect of reduced support payments; and there may be female unemployment. East Germans have only begun to imagine that their benefits are in jeopardy.

accompanied by children, demonstrated outside the Education Ministry. Abend abruptly offered his resignation later that day.

This is not to suggest that these issues could derail the momentum for unification, but to point out the existence of social-support policies in the GDR that far

exceed those in West Germany. Yet East Germans are only beginning to imagine that these benefits may be in jeopardy. People across Eastern Europe tend to assume that whatever has developed locally is the norm everywhere, while advantages found abroad would be a net gain.

Robert J. McIntyre is an associate professor of economics at Smith College, Northampton, Mass., U.S.

SNIPPETS

Shabu family falls: A housewife and her two married daughters were arrested in their house in Makati by National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) agents who allegedly seized from them five packets of shabu, sniffling paraphernalia, assorted firearms and ammunition.

Arrested and charged with possession of prohibited drugs and illegal possession of firearms and ammunition were: Mrs. Andres, 53, her daughters Socorro A. Persopes, 26, and Nella A. Duggs, 25, all of 6124 J.P. Rizal St., Barangay Tenejeros.

A son of Andres, Alexander, 37, who allegedly sold P900 worth of shabu to a poseur-buyer was not home when NBI men led by Narcotics section chief Doroteo Rocha surrounded the house.

Rocha said the family had been under surveillance since an informant told him that a Makati policeman had hired the family to sell shabu and other prohibited drugs.

The raid was made with a search warrant issued by Makati Judge Andres B. Reyes.

Rocha said that when they searched the rooms of Andres' daughters they found the shabu, sniffling paraphernalia and several rifles and assorted bullets.

NBI agents Lauro Reyes, Rico Mendoza and Dante Jacinto said the Makati policeman suspected of hiring the family has been placed under surveillance also.

The raiders also found P17,500 in the house but returned it to the family.

Andres and her daughters denied any knowledge of the shabu, guns and bullets found in their house. The money, they said, was their winnings from a basketball "ending" game.

3 slain in Zamboanga: Three men were killed and one was wounded in shooting and stabbing incidents here, police said.

Police identified those killed as Rajan Sabandal, of Barangay Sta. Barbara; Antonio Hermoso, 31, of Canelar; and Alberto Ramos, 36, of Dumaga, all of this city.

Wounded was Jaime Martinez, 21, an ex-Navy man and tricycle driver.

Police said Sabandal was shot by a lone man in front of the Rajah Soliman public market at 9:40 am. He died on the spot.

Ramos, armed with .38 revolver shot and missed one Narciso de la Cruz, a businessman from Basilan, but was shot dead by two policemen.

Hermoso was mauled by a group of men, one of whom hit him with a lead pipe. He died hours after in a hospital. An argument was the cause of the killing, police said.

DND to enlist 13,000 men: Some 13,000 new recruits for the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) will be enlisted by the Department of National Defense to reinforce its existing territorial forces in the countryside. Defense Undersecretary Eduardo Ermita announced.

The Defense Department hopes that by the end of the year, they will have had at least 80,000 militiamen to form the country's first line of defense against rebels and criminals.

Ermita added that they will raise the CAFGU's basic allowance from P540 to P900 monthly.

Congress earlier blocked appropriations proposed by the Defense department to enlist 80,000 CAFGU personnel nationwide to augment the regular Armed Forces' strength in the provinces. The military was thus forced to settle with a small CAFGU auxiliary component.

Ermita said that due to the clamor of provincial executives for an effective territorial force in their regions, Congress may still be persuaded to change its decision on the appropriations for the auxiliary force.

While the budgetary constraints still exist, the DND had decided to increase the size of the CAFGU instead of expanding the regular armed forces, Ermita added.

Killers of 2 cops fall: The killers of two Western Police District (WPD) policemen — Pte Eddie Chan who was slain last year in San Andres, Manila and Pfc. Jessie Miranda who was killed last month in Sta. Cruz were arrested by lawmen.

The suspects in Miranda's killing were identified as Julian Jalbuena, 34, of 1978 Estrada St., Sta. Ana; Miguel Jalbuena, 30, of 202 Little Grace Park, Malibanan, Meycauayan, Bulacan; and Antonio Opalic, 28, of 1909 F. Muñoz St., Paco, Manila. The fourth suspect, believed to be the gunman, is still at large.

The suspected killer of Chan was identified as Reynaldo Domingo, 34, of Sapang Palkay, Bulacan.

Chan, brother of People's Journal photographer Ric Chan, was shot in front of this house in San Andres while attending to his fighting cocks on May 21, 1989.

Aguinaldo left with few men: Constabulary authorities confirmed reports that renegade Cagayan Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo is now down to only a handful of armed followers and is no longer capable of forming a shadow of government in the hinterlands of the Sierra Madre mountains where he is allegedly hiding.

PC-INP Recon chief Col Miguel Fontanilla said Aguinaldo and his followers are always on the run due to sustained operations against them by military units in the province.

Aguinaldo and his followers went on hiding after staging a rebellion in the capital town of Tuguegarao last March 4 wherein, Armed Forces Civil Relations Service chief Brig. Gen. Oscar Florendo was killed.

Fontanilla also said the Communist Party of the Philippines' shadow government at the Siyundungan Valley in Cagayan has been dismantled and its 48 leaders arrested.

Another suspect in airmen's slaying arrested: Troops arrested three alleged communist guerrillas, one of whom is believed to have been involved in the weekend killing of two American airmen near a US-run air base near Angeles, a military officer said.

Li Col Jesus Yarcia, military and police area commander, said the three communist New People's Army suspects were arrested after a running gun battle in a village on the outskirts of this city.

Among those arrested was Gabriel Warner, 24, who is believed to be a member of the Mariano Garcia Brigade, the rebels' assassination squad operating outside Clark Air Base, Yarcia said.

Three other rebels escaped, he said.

Yarcia said the two others, including a woman, were members of a rebel support group and were undergoing further investigation for possible links to the killing of Airmen John H. Raven, and James C. Green.

Marinduque projects start soon: The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) said the construction of about 400 projects worth P123 million in Marinduque will be started soon.

DPWH regional director Bernardo Bueno Jr said the projects include the construction of two municipal ports, seven river control projects, 215 artesian wells, 40 classrooms, 22.9 kms of major roads and 11.07 kms of barangay roads and pavements.

The renovation of the Cavit port in Boac which will provide maritime service to inter-island vessels plying the Manila-Visayas-Mindanao route and the Torrijos port which will boost the fishing industry in the province are about to be completed, Bueno said.

At least 1,000 schoolchildren will be accommodated in the 15 classrooms for elementary and 25 for high schools, Bueno said.

Aside from artesian wells in remote barangays, the DPWH is also tapping sea water as additional water source, Bueno added.

Raped 3 times: A widowed businesswoman in Valenzuela, Metro Manila was raped three times by one of her 22-year-old employees but did not immediately report the incident to police for fear that her son would resort to violence.

Natakatok ako na baka patayin siya (suspect) nag anak ko," the victim, engaged in selling iron construction materials, told Valenzuela policemen.

She said she was raped the first time last month by suspect Arthur Galandi, a stay-in helper of her store, who suddenly grabbed her from behind and threatened to kill her if she refused to give in.

Galandi repeated it again last May 5 and 15, she said.

The suspect, who has been in her employment for a year, admitted the crime and is detained at the Valenzuela police headquarters.

Dead & dumped: Two unidentified men were found dead in separate places in Bulacan.

The first man was found near the Angat riverbank in Barangay Libis, Baliuag. Police described him as between 35 and 40 years old, beauntified, in denim pants and had six stab wounds, three in the chest and three in the abdomen.

The body of the other man was found in Barangay Iba, Meycauayan. He had three gunshot wounds in the chest and neck.

Police said the victim was wearing denim pants and a white T-shirt and had long hair.

Police theorized that both men were killed in different places and their bodies were dumped elsewhere to mislead investigators.

Edu Manzano: a reputation to look after

He tries his best to maintain a good name. Not that it's a tough task. "I simply do my best to be fair in all my business transactions," he says. "I don't stab people, I play it fair with you today, you come back and see us the next day. I just maintain that. It's simple but it preserves the good name and that's very important to me."

WHEN you can call an endorsement of quality from the pages of newspapers and magazines, and when similar superlatives have been showered on you from other reputable sources, you have a formidable reputation to live up to. For Edu Manzano, that reputation or his name, to be precise, either as an actor-producer or a businessman, is very important.

As an actor, Edu, who has made about 25 films, has that respectability not very many actors possess. As television host, he has a very pleasant presence and spontaneous eloquence only a few can match. He has temporarily laid-off these professions, however, to give priority to another passion — business. As a businessman, the touch that has made him a name in the movie and television industry seems to be working quite well once more. And as before, he tries his best to maintain a good name. Not that it's tough task. "I simply do my best to be fair in all my business transactions," he says. "I don't stab people. If I play it fair with you today, you come back and see us the next day. I just maintain that. It's simple but it preserves the good name and that's very important to me."

Even in the movie industry, having a respectable name is important. You can buy write-ups. Everybody does. From politicians to big businessmen. There are PR groups to do that. But still, people find out who you really are. You can spend 10 minutes with somebody and dispel all the good write-ups if you weren't that good a person.

That guiding principle has worked well for Edu who now holds office in Amoroso St. in Makati. Evidently the business is doing good. The man himself looks good as he talks about his business. "We're into trading. But we're expanding it. We now do garments and I have this photography studio (at Creek-side) called Baby'sitter with Bien Bautista. Bien, of course, is the photographer and was Edu's classmate and later on his best man. Baby'sitter specializes in

portraits for children. "We provide costumes and parents get to choose what the kids wear while being photographed."

The business is four years old but only now has Edu gone full time — at the temporary expense of his showbusiness career. "I thought I had to fully concentrate on one," he says. "I don't think it's wise to have both and give each only half my time. Business is a full time job. It's not like I can get in and out anytime I feel like it. At the same time, since I've just gotten married, I decided to give more time to each other. Maricel is in showbusiness so I continue making movies but would hardly be seeing each other. This is a common problem among showbusiness couples. So I thought it's better than one of us backs off. I'm kinda happy that it's working. I now have more time for the office and my family."

His lifestyle has naturally changed. In place of shooting and tapings are business meetings and a lot of business trips. No complaints, says Edu. "In fact I like it." But if there's one

aspect of this new lifestyle he isn't so enthusiastic about, it's the obligatory entertainment of guests. In his words, "It's not at the top of my list of favorites. We do a lot of work with Japanese and Korean businessmen and I end up entertaining them. These things keep me up and out until 2 to 3 in the morning. But I have to. I mean these people come to the Philippines for the first time and they want to see Manila. So I make sure they do. Nevertheless, I try to always have at least 6 hours of sleep a day."

A fitness buff

Up close, Edu comes across as much taller and fitter than he appears on the screen. Standing almost six feet, with a 45 inch chest and a 30 inch waist, the guy is in peak form. It's not surprising though. The office he holds reflects an occupant who is a physical fitness buff. "I work out every morning for one and a half hours, six times a week," he says. The arms alone prove that. They're nearly as thick as an average man's next. "I've actually been working out since very early in life. I was into mar-

tial arts, too, for 14 years." He's talking about judo which gave him a Philippine invitational championship once. The guy is also into athletics — having played for La Salle's NCAA senior team in college. "It's in my system now. I have always loved sports — martial arts, golf, athletics. But at one time I had to stop all these for two years because I had this still unexplained hand ailment. My hands suddenly lost strength and I had to go to the States for treatment."

Ironically, most of the films he had made are drama, a genre that doesn't make much use of his physical attributes. Edu Manzano, the dramatic actor we often see in movies may have garnered the admiration of fans, colleagues and even critics but the guy prefers action. Unfortunately there were only two action films his physicality was able to indulge at. But, no matter, *Eagle Squad* and *Isang Araw Walang Diyos* are no doubt good references for future action flicks. That would be a good idea. "I prefer doing action," he readily admits.

It took Lyn three dreadful days to come to a decision. Late in the afternoon of the fourth day, when everyone on the executive floor had departed, they sat behind the locked door to Jimmy's office and discussed the details of the plan.

The cruise ship, Jimmy told her, would leave on a Saturday morning, week after next. It would make stops at Boracay, and Camiguin islands. Somewhere along that route, at a time when the best opportunity presented itself, Jimmy would leave Larry at the stern of the ship. It would have to be in the hours after midnight when most people were in bed or partying, just as long as the decks were clear.

Larry would be pried with a good many drinks, enough so that he would be noticeably stoned at the table and on the dance floor. Lyn was to add a massive dose of chlorate hydrate to his final drink. She would then guide him to the after deck, supposedly for fresh air.

Larry would be more than drunk when Jimmy sent him overboard; he would be totally unconscious. In such a state he would drown in the deep waters of the ocean. Jimmy would return to his cabin, Lyn would wait a good half hour before screaming that her husband toppled over the rail. At eighteen knots, Larry would be more than nine miles behind — and who would say how many fathoms down?

"There will be an inquest," Jimmy said, "and you'll have to testify. That won't be fun. I may even be called myself. But soon after the inquest we'll be free to marry."

"When we get married," asked Lyn, "won't they suspect?"

"Let them suspect," he replied. "By that time it won't matter. Because if they had a witness, they would have produced him. And without a witness, they've got nothing."

"About the hundred thousand," said Lyn, who was thinking mostly of money. "Later, you won't change your mind — will you darling?"

Jimmy smiled indulgently and kissed her. "Of course not, my dear," he soothed. "A hundred thousand is only the tenth part of a million. And I have many millions. Besides, you'll know too much and I wouldn't dare make you angry."

"That's true," she replied. "Yes, how true. But when it's over," she continued in a wheedling voice, "I'll have to stay all alone in — in



"I mean if I had a choice I'd go for it rather than drama."

Looking back at showbiz

Confidence and self-assurance are perhaps Edu's greatest assets. These may be working for him in business quite well now but coupled with the good looks and the talent that can easily compete with anyone in the movie industry, one can't help but feel the quiet rumblings of the artistic spirit trying to get out of his more sober businessman's role. No use hiding it nor are there any attempts to. "I've decided to go on a self-imposed semi-retirement not because I lost love for my acting career but because I feel it's my responsibility now that my whole family has all gone to the States, to run the affairs of the office and to expand it accordingly. We have stockbrokers and partners whom I'm answerable to so that's a big responsibility."

"But I haven't completely turned my back on show business. For instance, I'll be coming out in a game show and then produce another show from the back-ground after which I'll probably end up reviving my TV show."

The latter is of course *The No. 1 Late Night With Edu*, for three and a half years a favorite among late televiewers. The show folded up with a rating of 11.8, very impressive for a programme at the 10 pm slot, in fact, even higher than some prime time shows. "But at that time I felt that it was better to temporarily stop it. For one, we were to go on our honeymoon. My show had always been live and by then I had to tape it for me wasn't a natural or spontaneous as I wanted it to be. At the same time, I couldn't concentrate too much on it since I was devoting a lot of time dispelling those rumours and intrigues which hounded us then. I told myself I had to do something to hurt because they weren't true. Besides I have always met challenges head on. I never back off from anything and those were instances when I did just that. In a way I'm glad because I showed everybody how false the intrigues were and that all along I was simply telling the truth."

All's well that ends well as the cliché goes. Edu simply shrugs off the past now but not show business. He goes on talking about *No. 1 Late*, with fondness. "That show was not as easy as it looked. The whole thing there was to try to make it as easy as relaxed, fun. But it wasn't. For one, I was also the head writer aside from being the host-producer, too. So it wasn't that easy. Unless I can have the same amount of time which I put into it before, forget it."

Movies were equally difficult. The man never said it wasn't. Part of the game, he says, but even the most dedicated artist can be frustrated by a lot of dirt show business is known for. For Edu, it all boils down to professionalism. "Well, it's not my crew. Since I was producing that show, I had to pay Channel 2 for the air time. On the station's credit, they gave me the

best technicians in the business. So as far as the show's crew was concerned there was no problem. But some of the guests were something else. There were those who were scheduled to arrive at 9 but who would come at 10. You know, they're never ready. That was what made it difficult. People promising to take care of sets, people who promise to deliver and don't."

One can presume that it's the same with the movies. Among other things, unprofessionalism has been one factor that has stunted the industry's growth. Looking at it now Edu observes that the industry has never really made any significant progress. "Some companies will come up and make a quality picture but alongside they'd produce lousy ones."

Edu however does not blame all on the industry itself. "For one it is too heavily taxed. Producers actually pay 52 centavos out of every peso. That's 52 percent. You have to understand that the movie industry needs government support too. Right now there's almost none which is ironic considering that it's a great source of revenue for the government coffers."

There was time when the industry was supposed to be getting support from the previous administration and one tends to compare that with the present. There was the Experimental Cinema, for instance, which enjoyed tremendous funding.

"It was good and bad," Edu states. "It was good in the sense that it gave us a chance to somehow sell our products abroad. We got experimental films with themes that were suitable even to the foreign market. That was important since even some of our so-called best films here won't even rate abroad. We can't be selfish in thinking about it. We just have to look at it as a whole which is a source of revenue. The Experimental Cinema was geared to get awards here and possibly abroad. But some say that awards are nothing since they don't put money in the pocket. Edudisagrees. "It's still important. But still we don't have a real fixed standard or formula that would guarantee awards or profit. What have we got to base on to say that one film is better than the other? Something should be done to strive for excellence in all the aspects of movie making. Without government support producers are hesitant to even try. See anything we do now is experimental. Still it needs funds."

That was the good thing about the Experimental Cinema. Expectedly it wasn't all good and Edu thinks the bad part was that it was controlled by too few. "It wasn't open to those who weren't known here. I mean, some of our finest filmmakers like Erico Guin, Raymond Red, Kidlat, Tahimik — all of them are short film makers who made very good names abroad. But here they're unknown."

(To Be Continued)

Young at heart

TITA EJERCITO cut her hair very short and her polio limp is hardly noticeable as she does the yoga steps to demonstrate to the students of The Little Green School in Maryland, Cubao, Q.C. Tita, a former nun who is also a cousin of Senator Erap Estrada, is the director of this school for children, another montessori centre that gets the man out of a child.

The hours are long and it is hard work especially for someone like Tita Ejercito who is handicapped from a bout with polio when she was young. We asked what made her take up the task instead of an easier job with the academy.

"At the time I left the convent, a group of concerned parents who knew me realized the need for individualized system of instructions in teaching the children. They knew that I had finished my masters in child development at the US and that I had undergone a rigorous training in the Montessori System of Education at Washington, D.C. I had long experience in teaching school children in the crucial formative years when I was still a sister of the Good Shepherd. So they convinced me to direct The Little Green School. I have learned a lot from the children and I have never regretted my decision."

An addition to The Little Green School is their class for special children which is an added challenge to Tita. "But being with children has kept me young or at least young at heart. What matters is to have a sense of humour. Children have natural sense of laughter and one is carried with the laughter. If you want to laugh a lot, work with children."

While on a short trip abroad I discovered that one of our traits that makes us survive anything is our talent for disorder. In an orderly society like the US, that Pinoy makes it because he does not conform to the system. Sometimes he gets caught but most of the time he makes it on his own without so much as toying the line of least resistance. In positive parlance, he walks the extra mile.

In the US the young Filipinos are making it in the academic world and our young yuppies are competing with those graduates of Harvard and Wharton. Individually, they are hard to compete with. It is only when they are in a group that they become divisive. In San Francisco, for example, there is a tug of war between two groups in media over the Ambassador Rosalinda Tirona. One for and the other group against. The lady ambassador is a career diplomat who has gone through the ranks. But when she was assigned to San Francisco as Consul General, she affected the career opportunity of some others like that of Amado Cortez, a former actor who is aiming for the post with strong backing from some Aquino relatives. What made the lady diplomat the target of attack was her recent marriage (she is a widow) to businessman Lito Silveio, a charming enough gentleman who was previously married to someone else.

"I'm in love," the lady diplomat declared after she married. But some jokers thought that was just spring fever and brought the former wife to the affair where the diplomat was being honored. Some Filipinos have a nasty sense of humour. But San Francisco is a romantic city in spite of the earthquakes and who knows they may just work it out after all.

Love and marriage is not taken into consideration in competitive America. They threw everything at Rosalinda including the kitchen sink. Even the press clubs in San Francisco are divided. One on the side of romance and the other taking the cudgels for Amado (which originally means love too). Hang in there lady diplomat. We can all do with a little romance after the earthquakes in San Francisco.

Money talk

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"That's true," she replied. "Yes, how true. But when it's over," she continued in a wheedling voice, "I'll have to stay all alone in — in

that ugly apartment. For appearances' sake I won't be able to see you until after the inquest, at least. And I'll need a few little extras to cheer me — clothes, spending money — You do understand darling —"

Jimmy gave her a look which said she was an adorable, but spoiled child. He crossed to his desk and drew out his checkbook. He wrote swiftly and gave her the cheque.

"There, start your bank account with that."

The cheque was for ten thousand. "You are an angel," she cooed. "But I'll have to hide this from Larry! I'll lock it in my desk and make the deposit tomorrow on my lunch hour."

In order to insure Larry's presence on the voyage, Jimmy said, Lyn was to tell him that she had to go. It was to be a command performance because Mr. Alegre would be dictating letters, sending cables in connection with stock transactions, and so on. And Mr. Alegre did not think it proper to take Lyn on such a cruise unless her husband came along.

What a laugh that was! thought Lyn, but she did agree that it was a foolproof idea.

A small problem developed. Larry had no vacation time coming. Lyn reported, and it would be necessary for him to take a leave of absence without pay. He was mightily upset about the loss of income, Jimmy said that was funny. If Larry had known it, his money worries would soon be over, but Lyn was to tell Larry that she mentioned the problem to Mr. Alegre and her boss had said he would make it up to Larry out of his own pocket.

It was nearly two weeks before sailing time and Lyn waited in a state of wretched anxiety. Clever as the plan was, she knew that any number of unexpected turns could bring disaster. But on a Saturday morning in September there she was, as if caught in the web of a frightful dream, mounting the gangplank beside Larry. Jimmy striding firmly ahead of them, taking charge of murder just as confidently as he took charge of everything else.

The whole incredible scheme got to a bad start. On a night when Jimmy was prepared to make his first attempt to put the plan into action, Larry became seasick. They were at a table on the main deck, drinking it up, dacing. Lyn and Jimmy trying to host Larry atop their wave of false gaiety.

But Larry, coasting in the wrong direction, had become increasingly silent. Suddenly he made a face, clutched himself and heaved off.

He remained in the cabin he shared with Lyn for the next few days, missing Boracay entirely, though he did come on deck just long enough to inspect the coastline.

Not until the ship docked at Camiguin island did he recover, going ashore in good spirits, making his apologies to Jimmy, promising to be a good sailor now that he had become better adjusted to the rolling of the ship.

Indeed, two hours after the ship had sailed at six on the following evening, he showed no signs of distress. He had eaten a hearty dinner and had declared himself fit, ready to attack the rest of the voyage with gusto.

On the pretext of dictating a long cable to his broker, Jimmy took Lyn to the lounge. "This is it!" he said in a hushed voice. "We'll try again tonight. It's got to work because we haven't many chances left. You have the chloral in your purse?"

"I have it," she said nervously.

"Good. Now the orchestra plays until three and when they finish a few people will drift out on deck. So we'll stick to the plan and try to get our boy over the rail about two. That will give you plenty of leeway to wait a half hour, rush back into the saloon and sound your distraught alarm."

"Be sure to steer him past my porthole near half past one so there won't be any guesswork on the timing. Load his last drink heavily with chloral, but don't wait for it to take effect. Remember, you can't carry him. Get him seated on deck, then he can black out for keeps."

"Meanwhile, I'll scramble around the after decks above and below, to make sure they're empty. If not, we'll just have to risk waiting until they are. Got all that?"

"Yes, but I — I'm terribly nervous. I'm frightened!"

"Don't be. No matter what happens, keep calm and bluff your way through brazenly. Now go back to Larry, and we'll all meet on the main deck at nine sharp."

Lyn could not remember a more agonizing span of time than those hours between nine and two am. She felt as if the desperate smile she had clamped on her face had been set in cement and would never fade, even if she cried, even if she were struck on the lips with a hammer.

They were a ghastly threesome, so hysterically gay, so frantically, falsely wedded to fun and cheerfulness, the music throbbing, the drinks gurgling down as Jimmy ordered, the re-ordered, Larry getting obediently drunk and bawling, almost as if Jimmy had commanded him to do so.

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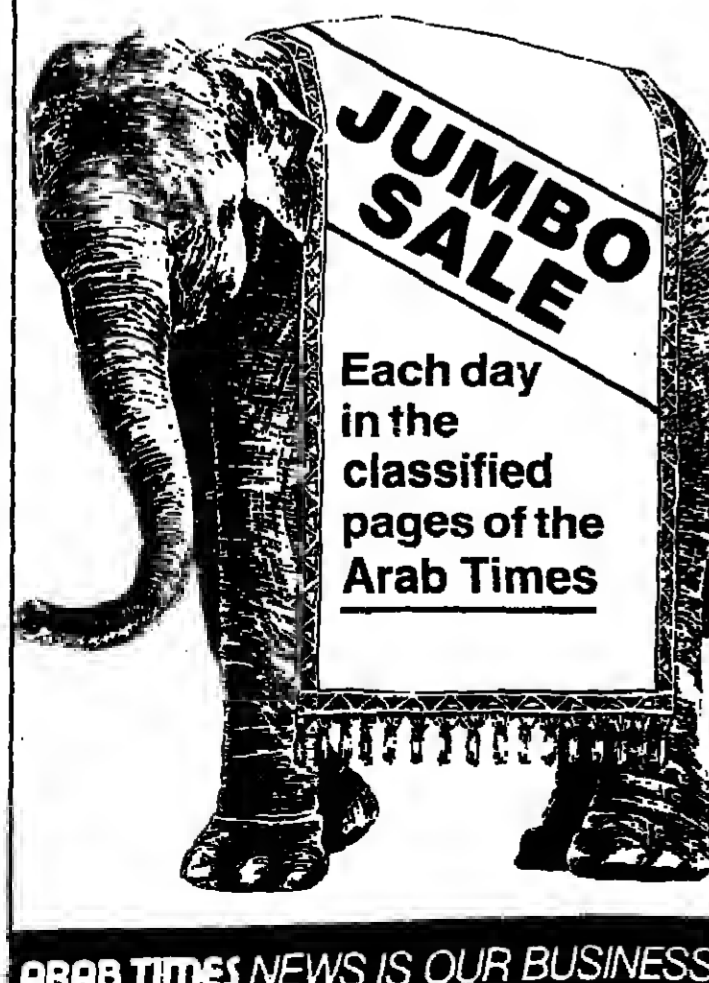
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Abdon, Pacheco on top

THE 3rd Al Ghanim Freight Open bowling tournament continued to bring out top caliber performances from bowlers of different nationalities in Kuwait, consisting mainly of PBAK members as the elimination round ended on Thursday at the Holiday Inn bowling lanes.

The top 48 bowlers in the men's division and the elite 12 in the women's side out of more than 100 participants will now qualify in the next round. For men, the 48 survivors will be playing a three game series to determine the top 24 who in turn will play another three games to get 12 bowlers who will then vie for the five berths at stake for the step ladder finals. In the women's division, the top 12 will also play a three game series to pick out the finalist who will play in the step ladder.

The top 12 in the ladies division according to their standing in the elimination round are as follows: Amy Abdon, Eva Sabay, Cecil Valisno, Lynne Reyes, Vicky Mendoza, Cora Paras, Nitz Alinez, Beng Gutierrez, Vangie Simoy, Mercy Lahorze, Baby Penasola, and Cecille Ronquillo.

Meanwhile, the top 48 bowlers in the men's division played on Friday and the top 24 who advanced to the next stage were headed by Roger Pacheco who scored 586 pinfalls followed by Lando Maradona (573), Pongsak (568), Mansour Al Shatti (563) and Mei Cervera with 559.

The others who made it were (not in order of finish) Waleed Al Zink, Rudy Zahlan, Bohol Labicani, Celso Estrada, Rod Dula, Saleh, Hashem, Victor Choong, Fahad Al Ajmi, Eddie P. Osama, Joe Bilog, Burt Ramos, Mohammed Al Amer, Hamid and Jimmy Tadana.

The finals for both divisions will be played on Thursday and the awarding, which will include the winners of the graded B & C tournaments, will be held at the Massalah Beach on June 8 at 6:00 pm. And as a final reminder to the participants in the All Filipina Summer League, the opening ceremonies will also be held at the Massalah Beach on Friday, June 8, at 7:00 am.

Dates set for America's Cup

SAN DIEGO, California, June 2, (Reuters). The countdown to the next America's Cup is officially under way as officials announced yesterday that the first race in the 28th edition of sailing's most prestigious competition will take place on Saturday, May 9, 1992.

Tom Ehman, chief executive officer of the America's Cup Organising Committee (ACOC), said subsequent races in the best-of-seven series would be sailed on Sunday the 10th, Tuesday the 12th, and Thursday the 14th of May.

Any further racing will only take place on the following Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday or Thursday, Ehman said at a meeting of ACOC representatives and 18 of the 20 challengers.

Unlike previous Cups, there will be no "called" laydays. They will now be pre-set on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays — even if races have to be delayed by weather.

San Diego, which won the right to stage the next Cup defence after a lengthy courtroom tussle, has scheduled the racing with live telecasts to European and Pacific countries in mind. Races will start at 1 pm local time (2000 GMT).

Green wins Sultan Center squash tourney

The annual Sultan Center Squash Tournament was completed at the Holiday Inn on Tuesday, with Bob Green beating Ahmad Saffa in the final by 3-0.

Green went through the tournament without dropping a game to win a "hat-trick" of finals, having previously won in 1988 and 1989, in third place was

Julien Gill, who claimed a walk-over as coach Mike Lee had pulled a muscle in his previous match.

The event was organised by Holiday Inn's Apollo Fitness Club manager Julie Dent, and had a full entry of 32 players. It was sponsored by the Sultan Centre and the trophies and

Maradona trains with Cup squad

No. 10s: dictate destiny of teams

ROME, June 1, (Reuters). Looking for World Cup stars in Italy? Watch out for the number 10.

The glamorous number 10 jersey will be sported by a choice band of soccer virtuosos, each with the inherent ability to dictate the destiny of both their teams and the title.

They are the ones who can lift the tournament from the mundane to the sublime, capture the hearts of the fans and turn the huzz of the crowd into a roar each time they receive the ball.

Appropriately enough, they are a band of exactly 10.

The list starts with Diego Maradona, who guided Argentina to the world title four years ago in Mexico with the help of the "hand of God" and his own unpredictable genius.

It continues with Ruud Gullit, the dreadlocked Dutchman who has exerted an extraordinary influence on the revival of his nation's soccer fortunes.

It includes established stars like Lothar Matthaus of West Germany, Gary Lineker of England, Belgium's Enzo Scifo, Igor Protasov of the Soviet Union and South American ball artists Carlos Valderrama of Colombia and Silas of Brazil.

It ends with the new wave of East European playmakers, George Hagi of Romania and Yugoslav Dragan Stojkovic.

That the stars of so many top nations should wear the number 10 jersey is no coincidence.

When the incomparable Pele, who appeared in three Brazilian World Cup winning teams between 1958 and 1970, stamped his personality on the game, he gave a particular allure to the number he



Maradona prepares to kick the ball during the practice session. (Reuters wirephoto)

Just about every small boy who started kicking a football aspired to don the shirt of the sport's top idol.

Pele also created a new role as Brazil led a tactical revolution,

switching from the traditional 2-3-5 formation to 4-2-4. Till then, the number 10 had been an inside forward, a deep-lying midfielder.

Brazil's 4-2-4 pushed him forward into a striking role but Pele's gifts were so all-embracing he was

able to forage back into midfield, dictate the play and still be on hand to score the goals.

The new number 10 had been born.

Eusebio of Portugal, Brazil's "white Pele" Zico and Michel Platini of France were among the soccer giants who followed the Pele model.

Maradona, though conspicuously lacking Pele's athletic physique, has undoubtedly proved the best modern exponent of the role. Without his outrageously brilliant technical skills, Argentina could not have won the last World Cup nor would they be counted among the favorites in Italy.

But Gullit, so versatile he can play in virtually any position, has the ability to do the same for the Dutch if he returns to full fitness after almost a year out of action with a knee injury.

Valderrama, former South American Player of the Year and known as the "white Gullit" because of his shock of frizzy blond hair, possesses extravagant first touch skills and has returned to peak form with his French club Montpellier just in time for the finals.

Scifo too, after two years in the wilderness, is back to the dazzling best which helped Belgium into the 1986 semifinals.

Hagi and Stojkovic, both 25, have the stage to show the world they really have the abilities which have persuaded Real Madrid and Marseille to lay out millions of dollars for their transfers this summer.

Matthaus, the driving force behind both West Germany and Inter Milan, is more of a Dynamo

Cup referee cleared of bribery allegations

BERNE, June 2, (Reuters). The European Football Union (Uefa) cleared Belgium World Cup referee Marcel van Langenhove yesterday of allegations of bribery in a European Cup semifinal in April when Benfica of Portugal beat France's Marseille 1-0.

Uefa spokesman Rene Eberle told Reuters that a disciplinary committee decided that "documents submitted by Marseille president Bernard Tapie alleging payments to Langenhove in a Swiss bank account could not be considered as proof."

"The submitted bank payment slips were undated, they did not give the places of issue or name the beneficiaries," Eberle said. "A check with the named bank with Mr Van Langenhove's agreement, showed he did not have any account there. The committee

decided the allegations were unfounded and emphasised that Mr Langenhove's comportment had been absolutely correct," Eberle added.

A report of alleged corruption was published in the French sports newspaper L'Equipe on May 28.

In the semifinal second leg on April 18 in Lisbon, which put Benfica into the final of the European Cup, Van Langenhove did not disallow a goal that followed an apparent handball.

Van Langenhove, due to officiate in the World Cup finals in Italy starting next week, acknowledged that his view had been blocked by players.

In the Netherlands a court ordered the Dutch soccer association KNVB yesterday to

pay 360,000 guilders (\$190,000) damages to former national coach Thijs Libregts, who was ousted in the run-up to the World Cup.

The Dutch news agency ANP quoted the court ruling as saying the money was to compensate Libregts for the loss of two years' worth of earnings as his dismissal by the KNVB had dimmed his chances of working for a major team elsewhere.

Libregts was sacked in March, despite having secured the first Dutch qualification for the World Cup in 12 years.

His departure came after a protracted public row in which leading players criticised his reference for defensive play.

Ajax coach Leo Beenhakker has since taken over as interim national coach for the World Cup finals starting in Italy next week.

Falcon runs year's fastest 5,000m

EUGENE, Oregon, June 2, (Reuters). Joe Falcon, a former University of Arkansas star, ran the world's fastest 5,000 metres this year, clocking 13 minutes 20.49 seconds in the Prefontaine Classic yesterday.

Falcon, who usually runs the mile or 1,500 metres, blew past eventual runner-up Doug Padilla with 300 metres to go and covered the final lap in 55 seconds.

"I wasn't sure how to run this distance," Falcon said. "I didn't feel good. The pace felt too slow, and I felt too sloppy."

"But this shows I'm in good sprint shape and that I should be able to run a great mile."

Svetlana Kitova of the Soviet Union ran the women's 2,000 in 5:41.11, edging Canada's Debbie Bowker, who clocked 5:41.32.

"I ran very easy and felt very strong at the finish," Kitova said. "I wanted a faster pace and also not as much cold and not so much wind."

Alberto Salazar, 31, the former American record holder at 10,000 metres, won that event in 29:09.22, just missing the 29:06 qualifying standard for the national championships on June 12-16 in Cerritos, Calif.

"But it felt good to win," said Salazar, one of the world's best marathoners before injuries struck.

American sprinters Leroy Burrell and Michael Johnson ran the fastest 100 and 200 metres in the world this season at the US Collegiate Championships yesterday in Durham, North Carolina.

Burrell, a University of Houston student and

training partner of world record holder Carl Lewis, won his 100 metres semifinal heat in an impressive 10.01 seconds.

Johnson, who attends Baylor University, later clocked a fast 20.18 seconds in his 200 metres semifinal.

"He (Burrell) ran a great race," said Tom Tellez, who coaches both Lewis and Burrell. "He got out well, accelerated well and maintained it, and he did it very relaxed."

On the women's side, Suzy Favour of the University of Wisconsin produced the top women's 800 metres time of the season, one minute 59.11 seconds, and former US Olympian Mark Everett of the University of Florida won the men's 800 metres in 1:44.70.

Sweden's Patrik Boden, the men's world javelin record holder who attends the University of Texas, defended his US collegiate title but failed for the first time this season to better 80 metres as he threw 79.82m.

Boden said an aching right shoulder, which he injured the week after his world record of 89.10 metres in March, forced him to alter his technique.

"I wasn't trying to beat any records today," he said.

Steve Lewis, the 1988 Olympic champion at 400 metres who attends the University of California at Los Angeles, looked strong in winning his semifinal in 45.01 seconds.

Holyfield wins fight in 4th round

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, June 2, (Reuters). Number one heavy weight contender Evander Holyfield stopped Seamus McDonagh of Ireland in the fourth round of their scheduled 12 round bout yesterday to remain undefeated and primed for a shot at undisputed champion Buster Douglas.

Holyfield knocked McDonagh to the canvas twice in the first round, rocked him again in the third round and finished the fight with a left hook early in the fourth that sent the St John's University student through the ropes.

The victory raised Holyfield's record to 24-0 with 20 wins coming within the distance. McDonagh dropped to 19-2-1.

Fans urged not to fight

POONA, India, June 2, (Reuters). World Cup fans and players should scream for 10 minutes at the start of this month's matches to save Italy from hooliganism, the doctor of the late "free love" guru Bhagwan Rajneesh said on Friday.

"Let everyone at the opening games close their eyes and then scream and shout, without touching each other, for 10 minutes to release all their pent-up violence," British doctor Swami Anroli said in a statement issued by Rajneesh's commune.

"The players should also take part in this dynamic meditation (to) encourage some poetry and grace in their play."

"Armed confrontation is only going to escalate this problem," Anroli advised Italian police bracing for June 8.

Rajneesh died in March at his Osho Commune International, where he returned in 1985 after being expelled from the United States for violating immigration laws.

Italy's victory in the 1982 World Cup was the last time a team from the continent won the trophy.

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World Cup Facts and figures

ROME, June 2, (Reuters). When the first soccer world championship was staged only 13 teams turned up and one match drew a mere 300 spectators.

Sixty years on, 24 survivors from an entry of more than 100 nations prepare to battle for the 14th World Cup and the month-long extravaganza is expected to attract a global television viewing figure of over 26 billion.

These were some of the milestones along the way:

Lucien Laurent of France scored the first World Cup goal in the inaugural tournament in Uruguay, netting the opener in a 4-1 win over Mexico.

Jorge Burruchaga took the World Cup final tournament goal tally to its current 1,328 when he scored Argentina's winner in the 3-2 victory over West Germany in the 1986 final in Mexico.

Sweden's Jonasson scored the 100th in 1934, West Germany's Helmut Rahn the 500th in 1958 and Dutchman Robb Rensenbrink the 1,000th in 1978.

Just Fontaine of France holds the record for a single tournament with 13 goals in the 1958 World Cup, though Gerd Mueller is the top overall marksman with 14 — 10 in 1970 and four in 1974, including the one which landed West Germany the World Cup for the second time.

Geoff Hurst is the only man to have scored a hat-trick in the final, propelling hosts England to their 1966 victory over West Germany.

The fastest World Cup goal was struck by England's Bryan Robson 27 seconds into a clash with France in 1982.

The fastest dismissal was earned by Uruguay's Jose Batista who was ordered off 55 seconds after the kick-off against Scotland in 1986.

Peru captain Mario de Las Casas was the first player sent off when his side were beaten 3-1 by Romania in 1930, though only 300 witnessed it.

Brazil's incomparable Pele is the only player to have featured in three triumphant World Cup campaigns, though he missed the 1962 final because of injury.

Pele was also the youngest-ever World Cup title winner at 17 years and eight months when he scored twice in Brazil's 5-2 victory over hosts Sweden in 1958.

Appeared

Northern Ireland's Norman Whiteside was the youngest player to have appeared in a World Cup final tournament when he made his debut at 17 years and 42 days against Yugoslavia in 1982.

At the other end of the scale, Dino Zoff was the oldest World Cup winner when he captained Italy to victory over West Germany in 1982 at the age of 40 years and four months.

Fellow goalkeeper Pat Jennings gained a world record 119th cap on his farewell appearance for Northern Ireland against Brazil on his 41st birthday in the 1986 World Cup.

Brazil and Italy are the only triple World Cup winners — Brazil in 1958, 1962 and 1970 and Italy in 1934, 1938 and 1982. Brazil alone have played in all the final tournaments.

The highest win in a World Cup final tournament was Hungary's 10-1 trouncing of El Salvador in 1982, surpassing the 9-0 win they achieved over South Korea in 1954 and Yugoslavia matched against Zaire in 1974.

The highest aggregate score was the 12-goal spree in which Austria beat Switzerland 7-5 in 1954.

Crammed

The highest crowd was officially recorded as 199,854, though up to 5,000 more were reckoned to have crammed Rio de Janeiro's Maracana stadium for the 1950 final in which hosts Brazil were beaten 2-1 by Uruguay.

The 1986 tournament drew a record of over two million spectators and a television audience for the final of 580 million, 90 million more than the number estimated to have watched the first landing on the moon.

Brazil's Vava is the only player who has scored in consecutive finals (1958 and 1962), while Pele netted in the 1958 and 1970 finals and Paul Breitner in West Germany's 1974 victory and 1982 defeat.

Antonio Carbajal holds the unique distinction of competing in five final tournaments, keeping goal for Mexico from 1950 to 1966.



Lucien Laurent: first World Cup goal

Tyson more popular in defeat: King

NEW YORK, June 2, (Reuters). In defeat there may be victory, at least in boxing promoters Don King's world.

King, former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson's promoter, says the ex-champ is receiving more sponsorship offers after losing his title to James "Buster" Douglas last February than he had been getting while champion.

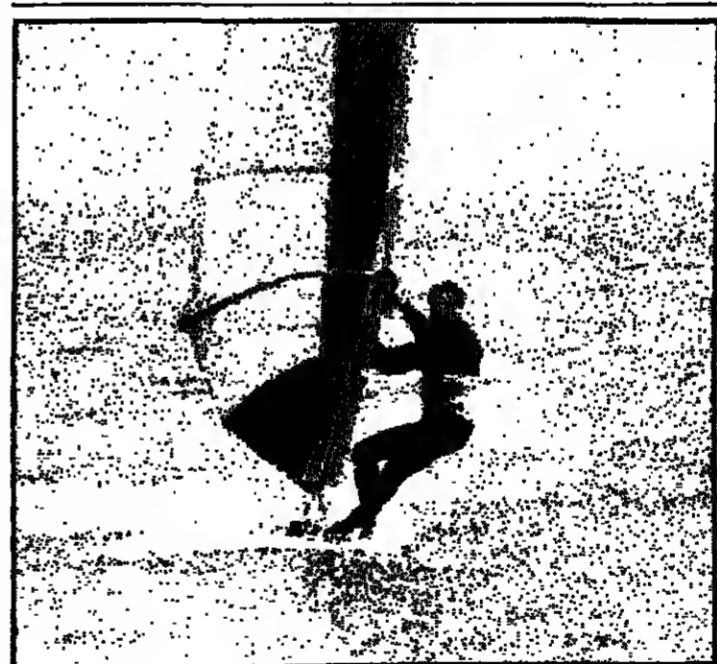
King, always looking to sell or promote something, insisted in a telephone interview with Reuters from Las Vegas yesterday that he is busy sorting out sponsorship deals for Tyson.

King is in Las Vegas keeping close tabs on Tyson as he prepares to fight Henry Tillman on June 16 in the former champion's first fight after losing the title.

Many boxing insiders had generally thought that while champion, Tyson's personal problems, which included a highly-publicised divorce with tales of wife-beating and heavy drinking, had frightened off many potential sponsors.

King said a deal has been made for Pepsi to become the official sponsor of "The Road back," as King has dubbed Tyson's quest to regain the title. Pepsi spokesmen were not available for comment.

"I think Tyson is more valuable now than before... apparently a lot of other people think so, too, because I'm really barking loud now because I have sold a lot of sales for money than I had when he was fighting Buster Douglas," King said without pausing for breath or syntax.



Large: riding a wave

Bahman edges Large

STUART LARGE lead all the way around the course for the first race of the Merit Summer Windsurfing Series on Friday, only to be beaten on the last leg by Abdul Rahman Bahman (sponsored by Qabazard Marine). Stevie Hutchinson (sponsored by The Sultan Center) was third.

It was a quiet day at Messilah Beach last Friday, with a gentle northerly breeze. The course was set as a Standard Olympic Triangle using the new K.D.D. marker buoys. At the starting horn, first away was Glenn Ashwell, but unfortunately his father Brian Ashwell was last away as he had rig problems. Birke Kamphaus and Fowad Harakeh both fell off just before the first buoy but quickly restarted. By the halfway mark Stuart Large on his Mistral Competition had a commanding lead over Abdul Rahman Bahman on his Fanatic Ultra Cat, both boardsailors using 7.5m² sails.

Just behind the leaders collisions were taking place between Bob Green, Stevie Hutchinson and Fowad Harakeh, with Bob Green protesting both men. All sailors were pumping their sails rigorously in an effort to increase board speed. But in the 45°C heat it was extremely tiring work, although the breeze was increasing. At the last jibe mark Large pumped a hole into his sail and Bahman completed a tight turn to lead for the first time and take first place from Stuart Large and Stevie Hutchinson.

The next 5 races were all cancelled due to lack of wind.

The Merit League placings at the half way stage:

1. Abdul Rahman Bahman 3/4 points; 2. Stuart Large 2; 3. Stevie Hutchinson 3; 4. Bob Green 4; 5. Fowad Harakeh 5; 6. Glenn Ashwell 6; 7. Bob Ward 7; 8. Bruce Keeping 8; 9. Birke Kamphaus 9; 10. Brian Ashwell; 10



Green (right) with Saffa.



The players, coaches and sponsor with Julie Dent.

SPORTS

Bulls outclass Pistons to even series

CHICAGO, June 2. (AP): Michael Jordan scored 18 of his 29 points in the pivotal third quarter last night, leading the Chicago Bulls to a 109-91 victory over the Detroit Pistons and forcing a seventh game in their Eastern Conference finals.

The deciding game of the best-of-7 series will be tomorrow at the Palace in

Auburn Hills, Michigan, where the Pistons are 8-0 in the playoffs and have yet to give up 100 points. The Bulls, 8-0 at home in the post-season, have surpassed 100 points against Detroit in all three of the games in Chicago.

The winner of tomorrow's game meets the Portland Trail Blazers, which beat Phoenix in six games in the Western

Conference playoffs, in the National Basketball Association finals starting Tuesday night.

Jordan, averaging 39.3 points in Chicago and 25.3 at the Palace in the series, was held to nine points in the first half as the Bulls led just 47-44.

Joe Dumars scored Detroit's first three baskets in the second half to cut the

lead to 51-50. The Bulls then outscored Detroit 29-13 for the remainder of the third period, starting with a 12-4 run.

The Bulls continued to build on their advantage, with Craig Hodges and Jordan hitting 3-point baskets and Jordan closing the period with a three-point play to give the Bulls a commanding 80-63 lead going into the fourth quarter.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Baseball results

NEW YORK, June 2. (Reuters): Results of Major League baseball games played yesterday:

American League		
NY Yankees	4	Baltimore 3
Milwaukee	7	Toronto 1
Boston	4	Cleveland 3
Chicago WS	2	Minnesota 1
Oakland	4	Kansas City 3
California	4	Texas 3
Detroit	9	Seattle 7
National League		
NY Mets	4	Philadelphia 0
Montreal	4	Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis	6	Chicago Cubs 4
Atlanta	16	San Diego 11
Cincinnati	5	Los Angeles 2
San Francisco	6	Houston 5

France triumph

SYDNEY, June 2. (Reuters): France came from behind to beat New South Wales 19-12 in the first match of their eight-game Australian rugby union tour at Sydney's Concord Oval today.

Basketball star

CLEVELAND, Ohio, June 2. (Reuters): Danny Ferry, the former All-American college basketball star at Duke who played professionally in Italy this past season, has signed to join the Cleveland Cavaliers, the National Basketball Association team announced yesterday.

Davis retires

LONDON, June 2. (Reuters): Fred Davis, who has graced snooker for 60 years, bowed out of the sport yesterday after losing in a pro-am match. Davis, who turns 77 in August, needed to win to retain the professional status he has held since 1930.

Scotland draw

WELLINGTON, June 2. (Reuters): Scotland were outscored three tries to one but scrambled to a 16-all draw against a fired up Wellington team in the second game of their eight-match rugby union tour of New Zealand yesterday.

Soccer fans

ROME, June 2. (Reuters): Thousands of soccer fans waited in queues for up to 24 hours to buy the last tickets for the World Cup final which were sold today.

Kemper Open

POTOMAC, Maryland, June 2. (Reuters): Gil Morgan, seeking his first victory in seven years, shot a four-under-par 67 on Friday to take a one-shot lead after 36 holes of the \$1 million Kemper Open golf tournament.

Three-way tie

HERSHEY, Pennsylvania, June 2. (Reuters): Mary Beth Zimmerman, Kate Rogerson and Stephanie Farwig all posted five-under-par rounds of 67 to share a one-shot lead after the opening round of the \$300,000 Lady Keystone Open yesterday.

Wales win

WINDHOEK, June 2. (Reuters): Wales beat Namibia 18-9 (half-time 9-3) in the first rugby union Test today. Scorers: Wales — Paul Thorburn, Chris Bridges tries. Thorburn two conversions, two penalties. Namibia — Gerhard Mans try, Shaun McCulley penalty conversion.

Soccer double

EAST BERLIN, June 2. (Reuters): Champions Dynamo Dresden completed the double today by beating non-League Schwen 2-1 in an East German Soccer Cup final marred by fouls.

Ireland win

VALLETTA, June 2. (Reuters): World Cup finalists Ireland beat Malta 3-0 (half-time 1-0) in an international soccer friendly today. Scorers: Niall Quinn (43rd minute), Andy Townsend (77th), Frank Stapleton (87th).

Capriati edges Wiesner

Agassi clashes with Chatrier



Agassi slams Chatrier (Reuters wirephoto)



Graf in quarterfinals (Reuters wirephoto)

PARIS, June 2. (UPI): Jennifer Capriati, playing in her first Grand Slam event as a pro, reached the fourth round of the French Open today along with top seeds Steffi Graf and Monica Seles.

Capriati, at 14 one of the youngest players ever to advance this far, overcame early center court jitters to post a 6-4, 6-4 victory over 12th seed Judith Wiesner.

In the round of 16 Capriati will play unseeded Mercedes Paz, the conqueror of defending champion Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario. Paz won her third round match from Celine Cohen, 6-1, 7-5.

Graf, recovering from an allergy attack dropped her service three times while beating Italy's Sandra Cecchini, 6-2, 6-3, and Seles, the second seed, extended her winning streak to 28 matches with a 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4) victory over Leila Meskhi of the Soviet Union.

Seles next meets 16th seed Laura Gildemeister of Peru, the last woman to beat her in early match. Gildemeister, yet to drop a set, won her third round match from qualifier Magdalena Maleeva, 6-1, 6-3. Seventh seed Thomas Muster and No. 15 Guillermo Perez-Roldan both reached the round of 16 of the men's draw, each in four sets. In a match suspended by darkness yesterday, Muster ousted 1983 French champion, Yannick Noah, 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 4-6, 6-3.

American Andre Agassi clashed angrily with International Tennis Federation president Philippe Chatrier yesterday after sanctions were threatened against players wearing coloured clothes at the French Open.

A statement from Chatrier, under his capacity as head of the French Tennis Federation, said several members of the tournament organising committee "have been very disturbed by the dress of Agassi, for example." It said the authorities were considering introducing new clothing regulations next year.

Agassi, who has been wearing black denim shorts and pink leggings throughout the first week of the tournament, responded by saying: "Chatrier, he's a bozo."

Results

Jennifer Capriati (US) beat 12-Judith Wiesner (Austria) 6-4, 6-4; 10-Natalia Zvereva (Soviet Union) beat Stacy Martis (US) 6-4, 6-1; Mercedes Paz (Argentina) beat Celine Cohen (Switzerland) 6-1, 7-5; Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria) beat Patricia Tamin (Argentina) 2-6, 7-5, 6-0; Steffi Graf (West Germany) beat Sandra Cecchini (Italy) 6-2, 6-3; Nicolas Pietrangeli (France) beat Amos Mansouri (Israel) 6-4, 7-6 (7-3); Goran Ivanisevic (Yugoslavia) beat Patrick Knežević (West Germany) 7-6 (7-4), 6-1, 7-5; Ann Grossman (US) beat Kirilj Sharpe (Australia) 6-2, 4-6, 6-1; 16-Laura Gildemeister (Peru) beat Magdalena Maleeva (Bulgaria) 6-1, 6-3; 7-Mary Joe Fernandez (US) beat Isabel Cuello (West Germany) 7-6 (7-3), 6-2; 2-Monica Seles (Yugoslavia) beat Leila Meskhi (Soviet Union) 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-4); 15-Guillermo Perez-Roldan (Argentina) beat Yannick Noah (France) 7-6 (7-5), 6-4, 4-6, 6-3; 7-Thomas Muster (Austria) beat Paul Haarhuis (Netherlands) 3-6, 7-5, 6-2; 6-Tyler Haskins (Sweden) beat Diego Perez (Uruguay) 6-1, 4-6, 6-1; 10-Martin Jaffe (Argentina) beat Ali Rahunen (Finland) 7-6 (7-2), 6-2, 6-1; Karol Novacek (Czechoslovakia) beat Aaron Krickstein (US) 6-2, 6-3, 6-7 (7-2).

England, Tunisia draw 1-1

TUNIS, June 2. (Reuters): Substitute striker Steve Bull scored a last-minute goal to rescue England from an embarrassing defeat against Tunisia today in their final warm-up soccer international before the World Cup finals in Italy.

The Second-Division striker headed home a cross from John Barnes in the 89th minute to earn England a 1-1 draw after the Africans had led for most of the match.

A sloppy mistake by midfielder Paul Gascoigne led to Tunisia's goal in the 26th minute when he gave away the ball to Abdelhamid Hergal whose 35-metre volley soared over wrong-footed goalkeeper Peter Shilton.

Lack of ideas and poor team work in a lacklustre performance left England looking like heading for their second successive defeat after a 1-7 match

unbeaten run.

But Bull, who come on in the 80th minute, salvaged some respect, heading home from close in.

England manager Bobby Robson fielded what was expected to be his World Cup line-up and was looking for a convincing performance against the Tunisians, who were playing their first game for six months.

The match was seen as ideal preparation for England for their Group F first-phase match against Egypt, whose style is similar to Tunisia.

England, however, were harried and knocked out of their strike by a Tunisia side full of running and their best chance in the first half was from a free-kick in the 35th minute when defender Stuart Pearce hit the post.

Sulayem adjusts his sights in Greece

Athens: While the spotlight falls on Miki Biasion, Didier Auriol and Carlos Sainz at the start of the 37th Acropolis Rally today, Middle East champion Mohammed Bin Sulayem will be content to wait in the shadows.

Making his only World Championship appearance of the year in his Wiston Toyota Celica GT-4, the UAE star knows he can have little influence on the main issues to be debated over the next four days.

However, while reigning

world champion Biasion attempts to wipe out Auriol's lead in this year's series and Sainz tries to sneak in front of the two Lancia drivers, Sulayem — partnered by Irishman Ronan Morgan — has a number of targets in his sights.

Starting at No. 20 but aiming to force his way quickly up the field, he says: "If things go well, I'm hoping to surprise a few of the top European drivers. This rally is a real car-breaker though, and it would be foolish to try and

make predictions.

"My main aim is to produce a performance which satisfies me, and the rest of the team. Some times you win a rally without driving well. Other times you can have a lot of mechanical problems, finish third or fourth, but know that you've driven your best. You don't always get the reward you deserve in this game."

In keeping with tradition, the rally roars noisily to life this morning beside the Acropolis.

Chinese clinch badminton title

TOKYO, June 2. (UPI): Chinese women clinched their fourth consecutive victory in the women's World Team Badminton Championships, known as the Uber Cup, today, after defeating South Korea 3-2.

China took all three singles matches in the final with South Korea which won two doubles games at the Tokyo Metropolitan Gymnasium.

China's Tang Jiu-Hong defeated Hwang Hae Young 11-4, 11-0 in a 15-minute game while Huang Hua added another win for China with a 11-5, 11-7 victory over Lee Young Sook.

In the third singles game, Zou Lei made short work to get the fourth Uber Cup for her team, beating Lee Heung Soon of South Korea 11-5, 11-6.

South Korea, however, over-

powered China in the last two games.



Maradona (left) gestures to reporters before joining a practice game. Right: Argentina's Claudio Caniggia jumps to kick the ball as the goalkeeper turns away. (Reuters wirephotos)

UAE team living in luxury

IMOLA, June 2. (Reuters): Players from the United Arab Emirates are living in luxury during their World Cup stay in Italy.

Their hotel rooms are fitted with whirlpool baths and there is a surfeit of marble to make them feel at home.

But the team that is reputed to be the richest at the tournament are blasé about the bonuses they may reap for their first appearance in the World Cup finals.

"For us just being here is a bonus. We're playing for the experience and not for the money," said star striker Adnan Al-Taiyari, an amateur like the rest of the Gulf state's 22-member squad.

"Our standard of living is high enough without soccer," he added.

As a reward for qualifying for the month-long tournament, the players received \$120,000 each from UAE President Zaid Bin Sultan to build a house, according to national team committee chief Hamad Bin Brook.

He said official match-win bonuses in Italy may be \$1,000 to \$2,000 a player but that Emirates businessmen were free to make their own gifts to the team.

The UAE will play their Group D matches against West Germany, Colombia and Yugoslavia in Milan and Bologna and are not expected to progress beyond the first round.

The delegation of 45 players and officials is staying in a newly-built deluxe wing of the Molino Rosso Hotel at Imola, a town famous for its motor racing circuit.

Each room, decorated with expensive textiles and sound-proofed against traffic, has a huge bathroom walled and floored in marble and fitted with a king-sized whirlpool bath, hotel director Danilo Galassi said.

"The wing was being built when we got the booking but we modified the furnishings and arranged for more marble to make our guests feel at home," Galassi said.

He has also erected a mosque in a tent in the hotel grounds.

Milan's much-maligned San Siro Stadium was officially



Neapolitan boys run around burning tyres. (Reuters wirephoto)



A worker walks by lines of TV sets set up for reporters at a Milan stadium. (Reuters wirephoto)

inaugurated yesterday, seven days before it stages the opening match of the World Cup finals, between holders Argentina and Cameroon.

Two West German experts on soccer violence yesterday accused the Italian organisers of the World Cup of increasing the risk of clashes between soccer hooligans by not providing adequate leisure activities.

Neapolitans protesting against dirty drinking water burnt tyres for the second straight day this morning. Traffic was also blocked during the demonstration.

During this morning's demonstration, the protesters asked the

city council to clean the water or they would block the World Cup games.

Nursing a fever, Diego Maradona practiced for 30 minutes today to maintain fitness, six days before Argentina's World Cup opener against Cameroon.

Maradona, who led Argentina to victory in the 1986 World Cup, caught a cold after practice Wednesday and began running a fever yesterday.

"If the World Cup was tomorrow, it would be difficult to play," Maradona said at Argentina's training camp in Trigoria, about 40 kilometres (25 miles) southwest of Rome. (See also Page 21)

Rain dashes New Zealand's hopes

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 2. (Reuters): New Zealand's hopes of obtaining valuable batting practice before next week's first Test against England were thwarted by rain in their cricket match against Warwickshire yesterday.

Set 326 in a minimum 73 overs to register their fourth win in five county matches, New Zealand were 15 without loss off 7.4 overs when play was abandoned on the third and final day.

The day was dominated by Australian Test player Tom Moody who scored his second century in only his third first-class innings for Warwickshire.

Moody, kept out of Warwickshire's championship side by South African paceman Allan Donald, hit 15 fours and three sixes in his 106 off 138 balls.

Skipper Geoff Humpage (46) and Neil Smith, with 41 off 37 balls, helped Warwickshire amass 133 off 24 overs before the declaration at 274 for eight. New Zealand's premier spin-



Greatbatch: warned

ner John Bracewell was hit for 66 from his 10.2 overs but gained some compensation by picking up four wickets.

Scoreboard

WARWICKSHIRE first innings 297 for seven declared (R. Twose 64, P. Booth 51 not out)

NEW ZEALAND first innings 248 for live declared (A. Jones 82, M. Crowe 52, J. Wright 51, J. Benjamin 10 for 45)

WARWICKSHIRE second innings (overnight 141-2)

J. Ratcliffe c and b Bracewell	43
R. Twose c Wright b Milne	21
T. Moody b Bracewell	106
G. Humpage b Pringle	46
G. Ostler b Pringle	41
N. Smith c Fringle b Bracewell	41
A. Donald b Milne	1
J. Benjamin not out	3
T. Munton b Bracewell	4
Extras (lb-5 nb-4)	9
Total (for eight wickets dec)	274

Fall of wickets: 1-52 2-93 3-166 4-205 5-259 6-287 7-269 8-274

Bowling: Milne 11-1-47-2, Pringle 15-3-67-2, Sneddon 5-0-32-0, Watson 12-0-57-0, Bracewell 10-2-1-66-4

NEW ZEALAND second innings

J. Wright not out	2
J. Crowe not out	10
Extras (w-3)	3
Total	15

Bowling: Donald 2-0-9-0, Benjamin 1-0-2-0, Munton 2-4-3-0, Humpage 2-1-1-0

David Constant has withdrawn from the England umpires' panel for this year's Test cricket matches after a dispute with New Zealand batsman Mark Greatbatch during the second one-day international.

Constant had an angry exchange with Greatbatch when the New Zealander claimed the England pacemen were bowling too many bouncers.

Constant has previously been involved in controversy with a touring team.

In 1982 the Pakistani tourists were upset at some of his decisions and in 1987 they requested that his name be removed from the panel.

The request was refused and Constant umpired in two Tests. The New Zealand tour management said they had fined Greatbatch after Constant complained in his post-match report.

"He's aware that he's committed a misdemeanour and apologised to the umpires concerned during the game," New Zealand manager Ian Taylor said.

"We are not bound by any international code of conduct but it's a breach of the New Zealand code of conduct which he accepts."



The all-conquering GES Junior 1&2 and Junior 3&4 teams.

GES complete 'treble'

THE Gulf English School (GES) completed an historic treble in this year's KFSAC (Kuwait Foreign School's Athletic Conference) soccer leagues for primary schools by winning all three competitions — the Junior 3 & 4 League, the Junior 1 & 2 League and the Junior Cup.

Under the enthusiastic and experienced guidance of teachers Peter Jones and Hugh Daly, the GES teams won every game to achieve a 100 per cent record.

The Junior 3 & 4 team scored 51 goals in 12 matches while only three were scored against them. The Junior 1 & 2 team scored 25 goals in eight matches and conceded only two.

Ammar Askar was the leading scorer for the Junior 3 & 4 team with 11 goals while Ahmed Taber netted nine goals. Mijbel Al Shumari scored 13 goals

in eight matches for the Junior 1 & 2 team to emerge leading scorer in that group.

Standings

Junior 3 & 4 League				Points
Team	W	L	D	
GES	7	0	0	14
KES	7	1	1	10
Al Nouri	7	3	1	9
Modern	7	3	2	8
Sunshine	7	1	4	6
NES	7	2	3	6
Sura	7	1	5	3
Fahad	7	0	5	2

Junior 1 & 2 League

Junior 1 & 2 League				Points
Team	W	L	D	
GES	8	0	0	16
Al Nouri	8	4	0	16
Sunshine	8	2	4	6
KES	8	2	4	6
NES	8	1	7	0

Gower ponders cricket future with England

NOTTINGHAM, England, June 2. (Reuters): Former captain David Gower, aggrieved at being left out of England's squad for next week's first cricket Test against New Zealand, today issued thinly-veiled threats of quitting international cricket.

"I'm not ready to sever all ties with England. But I have got as far as saying 'sod em'. If that's the way they want it then that's the way it's got to be," he said.

"Eventually you're going to come to a decision. There is only so much you can do."

Gower, sacked as captain then dropped by England last year after failing in the Ashes series against Australia, was left of the Test squad after scoring only five runs in two one-day internationals last month.

"I inferred from my selection for the one-day internationals that someone was pleased with the way I'm playing and with my attitude," he said.

"I was told my one day innings were not taken into consideration for the Test selection."

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